Recovery Is Still Delayed

Leading Issues Down Point or More in Day of Slim Trading

NEW YORK, Jan. 18–(AP)–Recovery forces again faltered in today's stock market and leading issues slipped fractions to a point or so.

A sharp break in secondary railroad bonds, following action of the Erie in filing for reorganization under the federal bankruptcy laws, was a depressing influence. Erie bonds dropped 2 to 13 points. The road's shares were off about a point each, the common at 3⅜, first preferred 5¾ and second preferred 4.

A slump in December net operating income for Southern Pacific, one of the first major lines to report for this month, also was a chilling speculative influence. While this company's common shares were down only ⅞ at 20⅛, its bonds were substantially lower.

Volume Way Down

The volume of stock offerings was exceptionally small. Transfers totaled 779,060 shares against 933,680 yesterday. It was the slimmest turnover for a full day since December 1. The Associated Press average of 60 issues was off .4 of a point at 46.6

Aircrafts and gold mines were resistant throughout, the former still reflecting prospects of an expansive rearmament program. Homestake touched another new high for more than a year. It finished at 61. Ahead also were Alaska Juneau at 12⅛, McIntryle 41⅞, Douglas Aircraft 44¾ and Glenn Martin 20¼.

About 2900 Farms In Soil Program

Nearly 2900 Marion county farms will participate in the 1938 agricultural conservation program. 434 additional farmers entered the program during the last month, according to Harry L. Riches, county agent.

The 2460 farmers who were in the 1937 program and the additional new ones make a total of 2894 farms to enter the 1938 conservation program.

Marion county had the largest number of participants of any county in Oregon for the 1937 program, and will probably have the greatest number for 1938.

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, fancy Jonathans	.60
Kings	.70
Bananas, lb., on stalk 05½ to	.06
Hands	.06½
Grapefruit, Calif. Sunkist, crate	2.00
Dates, fresh, lb	.14
Lemons, crate	6.50
Grapes, Malagas	1.25
Oranges, crate 2.50 to	3.00

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Beets, doz.	.30
Cabbage, lb.	.01½
Kraut cabbage, sack 50 to	.60
Carrots, local, doz.	.30
Cauliflower, local, No 1	.90
Celery, crate	1.75
Utah	1.65
Hearts, doz.	1.10
Lettuce, Calif.	2.25
Onions, green, doz.	.40
Onions, No. 1 cwt.	1.80
Boiling, 10 lb., No. 1	.20
Radishes, doz.	.40
Peppers, green, Calif. 12 to	.15
Parsley	.40
Parsnips, lb.	.02
Potatoes, local, No. 1, cwt.	1.35
No. 2, cwt., bag	.70
Rutabagas, lb.	.01½
Spinach, Calif. box	2.65
Hubbard Squash, lb.	.01
Italian Squash, doz.	.30
Danish Squash, local, crate	.50
Turnips, doz.	.30

NUTS

Walnuts, 1937, lb. 10 to	.6½
Filberts, 1937 crop, lb. 12, to	.15

HOPS
(Buying Price)

Clusters, 1936, lb. top 12 to	.13
Fuggles, top	nominal

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Price)

Mohair	nominal
Medium wool	nominal
Coarse wool	nominal
Lambs wool	nominal

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Price of Andresens)

Large extras	.17
Medium extras	.16
Large standards	.16
Medium standards	.16
Pullets	.12
Heavy hens, lb.	.14
Colored medium, lb.	.13
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	.34
Butterfat, B grade	.33
Colored hens, under 4½ lbs.	.14
Colored hens, over 4½ lbs.	.14
Leghorn hens, light	.08
Leghorn hens, heavy	.10
Colored fryers	.17
Leghorn broilers	.16
Roosters	.04
Rejects market value	
Stags	.05

No 2 grades, 5 cents less.

Eggs—Candled and graded—	
Large extras	.17

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price $2.22 per hundred. Surplus $1.72.

Co-op Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 34c.
(Milk based on semi-monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.34.

A grade butterfat—Delivered, 34c, B grade, 33c, C grade, 28c.

A grade print, 35½c; B grade 34c.

Medium extras	.16
Large standards	.16
Undergrades	.12
Pullets	.12

LIVESTOCK
(Based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p.m.)

1937 spring lambs, lb.	8.00
Yearlings 5.00 to	5.50
Hogs, top, 150-210 lbs.	8.75
130-150 lbs. 8.00 to	8.50
210-300 lbs. 7.75 to	8.25
Sows 6.50 to	6.75
Dairy type cows 4.00 to	4.50
Beef cows 4.75 to	5.25
Bulls 4.75 to	5.50
Heifers 6.00 to	6.50
Top veal, lb. 8.50 to	9.00
Dressed veal, lb.	.14

GRAIN, HAY AND SEEDS

Wheat, white, bu.	.80
Wheat, western red, bu.	.76
Barley, brewing, ton	nominal
Barley, feed, ton	25.00
Oats, gray, ton	25.00
Oats, white, ton	20.00
Alfalfa, valley, ton	16.00
Oat and vetch hay, ton	13.00
Alsike clover seed, lb.	.24
Clover hay, ton	13.00
Red clover seed, lb., top	.25

Stocks & Bonds

January 18
STOCK AVERAGES
(Compiled by the Associated Press)

	30 Indus.	20 Rails	15 Util	60 Stocks
Today	66.6	20.5	33.6	46.6
Prev. day	67.0	21.0	33.8	47.0
Month ago	65.8	21.9	34.1	46.8
Year ago	97.5	40.1	53.2	71.9
1937-38 high	101.6	49.5	54.0	75.3
1937-38 low	57.7	18.7	31.6	41.7
1936 high	99.3	43.5	53.7	72.8
1936 low	73.4	30.2	43.4	55.7

BOND AVERAGES

	20 Rails	10 Indus.	10 Util.	10 F'gn
Today	*66.6	97.6	90.7	66.8
Prev. day	68.7	97.9	91.3	67.0
Month ago	73.9	97.0	91.1	65.6
Year ago	98.7	104.3	102.7	73.9
1937-38 high	99.0	104.4	102.8	74.7
1937-38 low	66.6	95.5	90.3	64.2
1936 high	98.2	104.4	103.1	73.0
1936 low	86.9	101.8	99.3	67.6

*New low.

Stair Fall Fatal

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.–(AP)–Injuries received from falling down a flight of stairs brought death to Mrs. Mary Flaherty, 86.

Wheat Drops For Snowfall

Slow European Demand Also Drag on Efforts to Make Headway

CHICAGO, Jan. 18–(AP)–Proving more potent as an immediate market factor than did recurrence of Kansas dust storms, heavy wet snowfalls in Nebraska today pulled wheat values down.

Persistent slackness of European demand for North American wheat counted also as weight on prices. It was doubted that export purchases of North American wheat today would total even 200,000 bushels.

Liverpool Is Weaker

Besides the Liverpool market, due ¼-⅜ of a cent lower, closed today ⅝-1⅛ cents down.

At the close, Chicago wheat futures after showing a maximum fall of 1⅜ cents were ¼-¾ under yesterday's finish, May 96⅝-¾, July 91⅛-¼; corn ⅛-⅝ advanced, May 60 ⅝-¾, July 61.

Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18—(AP)—(US Dept. Agr.))—Apples: — Oregon Jonathans, small to med. 85c-$1.00, Spitzenbergs, fancy, $1.35-1.50, Delicious, $1.35-1.50.

Brussels sprouts — Local, 12-pt. flats, 90-95c.

Cabbage—90-100 lb. crates—Local ball head 75c-$1.00.

Carrots—Per dozen bunches 35-40c.

Cauliflower — Roseburg No. 1, $1.50-1.65.

Celery—Labish, hearts, $1.35-1.50 per doz., Calif., Utah type, $1.75-1.85.

Cucumbers—Hothouse, doz., $1.85-1.90.

Eggplant—$1.75 lub.

Garlic—Oregon 7-8c.

Lettuce—Arizona, $2.25-2.50.

Mushrooms—Cultivated, 1 lb. cartons, 35-40c.

Onion—Oregon yellows, $1.50-1.65.

Pears—D'Anjou fcy. $1.50-1.75.

Peas—Mexico 12-13c per lb.

Peppers—Mexico, 15-16c per lb.

Potatoes—Long whites US No. 1, 85-95c; russets, U. S. No. 1, 95c-$1.

Rhubarb—Calif. 1.25 per box.

Sweet potatoes—Calif. 50-lb. No. 1, $2.00-2.25.

Spinach—The Dalles, 90c-$1.00.

Squash—Danish large crates 60-65c, Bohemian 50-70c.

Tomatoes—Standard 1.50-1.60.

Quotations at Portland

PRODUCE EXCHANGE
PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18—(AP)—exchange:

Butter—Extras 32½; standards 32½; prime firsts 32; firsts 30,; butterfat 34-35.

Eggs—Large extras 20; large standards 19; medium extras 19; medium standards 18.

Cheese—Triplets 17; loaf 18.

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18—(AP)—

Wheat:	Open	High	Low	Close
May	88⅜	88¾	87	87

Cash grain: Oats, No. 2 38-lb. white 25.50, Oats, No. 2, 38-lb. gray 27.50.

Barley, No. 45-lb. BW 27.50.

Corn, No. 2 EY shipment 29.25.

Millrun standard 22.00.

Cash wheat (bu.): Soft white 87½; western white 87½; western red 88.

Hard red winter ordinary 89½; 11 per cent 92; 12 per cent 96; 13 per cent 1.01; 14 per cent 1.05.

Hard red spring ordinary 89½; 11 per cent 92; 12 per cent 96; 13 per cent 1.01; 14 per cent 1.05.

Hard red spring ordinary 89½; 11 per cent 92; 12 per cent 96; 13 per cent 1.03; 14 per cent 1.07.

Hard white—Baart ordinary 88½; 11 per cent 88½; 12 per cent 88½; 13 per cent 91; 14 per cent 92½.

Today's car receipts: Wheat 88; barley 1; flour 3; corn 4; oats 2; hay 2; millfeed 4.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts 1200 including 651 direct, market active, mostly steady, good-choice 170-210 lb. driveins 9.00, few lates 9.10, one carload 190 lb. 9.25, 220-270 lb. 8.50-8.75, light lights 8.50, few up to 8.75, packing sows 7.00-7.25, lightweights 7.50, feeder pigs 8.50-8.75.

Cattle: Receipts 100, calves 10, market steady, steers scarce, medium-good saleable at Monday's spread of 6.50-7.75, few common-medium heifers 5.00-6.25, good fed heifers quotable 7.00, low cutter and cutter cows 3.25-4.00, common-medium 4.25-5.00, good beef cows 5.50-5.75, beef bulls 6.00, choice vealers 11.00.

Sheep: Receipts 200, fat lambs steady with Monday's 25 cent decline, older classes nominally steady, few 91 lb. trucked in lambs 7.60, choice carload lots 7.90, sizeable lots 74 lb. early shorn lambs 7.25, lightly sorted at 6.00, yearlings saleable 6.50 and down, choice ewes eligible 4.00.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18—(AP)—Country meats—selling price to retailers; Country killed hogs, best butcher, under 160 lb. 11½-12c; vealers 15-15½c; light and thin, 9-13c; heavy 8-10c; canner cows, 6½-7c; cutters, 7-8c; bulls, 9-10c; spring lambs, 16c; ewes 5-8c lb.

Live Poultry—Buying price: Leghorn broilers, 1¾ to 2 lbs., 20-21c lb.; colored springs, 2 to 3½ lbs., 19-20c lb.; over 3½ lbs., 19-20c lb.; Leghorn hens, under 3½ lbs., 12-13c; over 3½ lbs., 14-15c lb.; colored hens, 4 to 5 lbs., 18-19c lb.; over 5 lbs., 18-19c lb.; No. 2 grade 2c less.

Turkeys—Buying price: Hens 23-23½c No. 1 toms, 21-21½c; selling price, toms, 23-25c; hens, 24-27c.

Onions—Oregon yellow US No. 1-50 lb. sks. 1.50-1.65; 10-lb. sks. 22-30, boilers 10-lb. 20-25; 50-lb. sks. 90-1.00; No. 2-50 lb. sks. 1.00-1.05, sprouted 75-85, Oregon onion sets 4-4½. (Reported by FDA).

Potatoes — Supplies moderate demand slow, market about steady. Oregon local skd. per cwt. long whites US No. 1, 85-95; 50-lb. sks. No. 2, 30-35, Deschutes skd., per cwt. russets US No. 1, 1.10-1.15, 25-lb sks, 32-35, 50-lb. sks. US No. 2, 40-42½, Washington russets No. 1, 1.10-1.15. (Reported by FDA).

Wool—1937 nominal; Willamette valley, medium 23c lb.; coarse and braids, 23c lb.; eastern Oregon, fine, nominal; fall lambs wool, 18c lb.

Hay—Selling price to retailers: alfalfa No. 1, $18-18.50 ton; oats and vetch, $10; clover $12 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon (—) ton; do valley, $15 ton, Portland.

Hops—Nominal, 1937, 12-12½c.

Cascara bark—1937 peel, 5c lb.

Mohair—1937 clip, nominal, 35c lb.

Sugar—Berry or fruit, 100s, $5.30; bales, $5.45; beets $5.20 cental.

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

Domestic flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25 bbl., lots: Family patents, 49s, $6.10; bakers' hard wheat, net, 6.50; bakers' bluestem, $5.50; blended hard wheat, $5.95; soft wheat flours, $5.05; graham 49s, $3.35; whole wheat, 49s, $5.95.

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, Jan. 18—(AP)—(USDA)—Little activity was being reported in the Boston wool market today.

Mills were not buying enough wool to establish market prices. On the other hand, there was no particular pressure to sell. In view of the decline in prices in Australian and New Zealand wool markets since the first of the year, reports of the opening in London were being awaited with a great deal of interest by members of the Boston trade.

Cars Kill 2, Portland, Traffic Deaths Mount

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.–(AP)–The deaths of two pedestrians, Ray White, 44, and William Thayer, 75, brought Portland's traffic death toll to three since the first of the year.

Food-Hunting Thieves Find Diamonds, Money

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.–(AP)–Thieves hunted for food at the Sanctuary Coffee shop but found seven diamond rings and about $200 in currency.

Colds Bother Many

BRUSH CREEK—John Goplerud, sr., has been confined to his home for several days suffering from a severe cold. A number of less severe colds are also being reported.

Bank Debts Paid Off, Pacific Area

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.–(AP)–Business men of the Pacific slope have been working down their debts to banks at an unusually rapid rate in the last month, bank reports disclosed.

Aggregate loans of the 31 big banks in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Spokane and Salt Lake City have come down $21,000,000 in that time.

The biggest decline has been in commercial, industrial and agricultural loans made on other collateral than securities. This group accounted for $14,000,000 of the payoff—or two-thirds of the total debt reduction. Obligations in this category remaining on the banks' books totaled $327,000,000.

Stench Bomb Hurled in Portland Union Dispute

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.–(AP)–Police sought vandals who smashed a door and hurled stench bombs into the Jantzen Beach market. The owner said he sold California wine and beer products involved in a union controversy.

LaGrande Legionnaire Named Vice-Commander

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.–(AP)–The Oregon American Legion department elected E. L. Knight of LaGrande vice-commander to succeed the late C. L. McCoy of Nyssa, who died recently in Idaho.

Closing Quotations

NEW YORK, Jan. 18–(AP)–Today's closing quotations:

Air Reduc	57½	Int Nick Can	50¼
Al Chem. Dye	172¼	Int P & P PF	36¾
Allied Stores	8¼	I T & T	6½
Am Can	79¼	Johns M Manv	79
Am & Fr Pow	3¾	Kennecott	40
Am Pow & Lt	5⅝	Lib-O-Ford	40
Am Rad & St	13	Lig Myers B	99⅝
Am Roll Mills	21⅝	Loew's	50½
Am Smelt & Rf	52⅞	Monty Ward	35⅝
A T&T	146⅛	Nash Kelvin'r	11⅝
Am Tob B	70	Nat Bisc	19⅝
Am Wat Wks	11½	Nat Distill	20⅝
Anaconda	34⅜	Nat Pow & Lt	7⅛
Armour Ill	6⅛	N Y Cent	18⅝
Atchison	38½	North Am	19⅝
Balt & Ohio	9⅝	Northern Pac	12¼
Barnsdall	15¼	Packard	5¼
Bendix Avia	14½	J C Penney	71½
Beth Steel	62¼	Penn RR	22⅝
Boeing	34⅛	Phillips Pet	39½
Budd Mfg	5⅝	Pres'd Stl Car	29½
Calif Pack	23½	Pub Serv N J	32
Callahan Z-L	2	Pullman	34¾
Calumet Hec	9½	Radio	6⅝
Canadian Pac	7⅝	Rem Rand	14⅛
Case (J. I.)	92	Rep Stl	19⅝
Caterpil Tract	52⅝	Sears Roe	62⅝
Celanese	17⅝	Shell Union	17⅝
Certa-n-Teed	7⅝	So Cal Ed	23⅝
Ches & Ohio	37	Southern Pac	20⅛
Chrysler	60	Stan Brands	9
Col Gas & Elec	8⅝	Std Oil Cal	32
Coml. Solv	9⅝	Std Oil N J	49¾
Com'wlth & Sou	1½	Studebaker	6⅝
Con Edis	23¼	Sup Oil	3
Consol Oil	9⅝	Texas Corp	42¾
Corn Prod	63	Timkn Dt Axle	13⅝
Cart Wright	5⅛	Transamerica	11⅝
Douglas Aircft	44⅝	Union Carb	77
Du Pont	118⅛	Union Pac	85⅛
Elect Auto Lt	19⅝	Unit Airlines	7⅝
Elec Pow & Lt	11⅝	Unit Aircraft	25½
Erie RR	3⅝	Unit Corp	3⅛
Gen Elec	43⅞	Unit Gas Imp	10⅛
Gen Foods	32⅛	US Rubber	28½
Gen Mot	35⅞	US Steel	59⅝
Goodyear Tires	21¼	Walworth	7⅝
Gr No PF	23⅞	West Union	26⅝
Hudson Mot	9¼	White Motor	11⅝
Illinois Cent	10½	Woolworth	40⅛
Insp Copper	14⅛	(Curb)	
Int Harvest	66½	Cities Serv	1⅝
		Elec Bond & Sh	8½

Kerr Award Announced

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18.–(AP)–Fred Leitz, Gresham, was awarded the $100 James B. Kerr scholarship for outstanding work as a freshman by Dexter M. Keezer, Reed college president.

Financial News Broadcast
Each Business Morning
KGW
7:30 A. M.
Direct New York Stock Exchange Quotations by Private Wire
CALL
Conrad Bruce & Co.
Tel. 4106 204 Oregon Bldg.

"GIVE HER WINGS"

By MARIE BLIZARD

CHAPTER XXXI

What she thought was going to be a heavenly holiday had turned into an endurance contest.

Julie admitted the sad truth that she wasn't having a good time. She was like a character in a smart society novel, a house-guest in the kind of a house she had dreamed about in her romantic dramatizations. There was a maid to press her clothes, serve her breakfast, run her tub. She had attractive men to pay her attentions, to plan good times for her. She had better clothes than she had ever had before. If she wanted to play tennis or golf, she could play against a background that surpassed anything she had ever pictured. If she wished to swim, she could swim in a private pool or at a private beach.

It wasn't fun.

In her honest, analytical way she admitted that she simply didn't "belong."

There was no friendship, no ties of mutual attraction between her and Nancy. It was Nancy's house and Nancy had been as kind as she was casual about inviting Julie, but the lack of Nancy's interest—for all her politeness—was deeply felt by Julie. She felt that she was there under sufferance, knew that she should have left after the weekend.

Yet she had justified her presence. She added to the party. Nancy had said she needed another girl to amuse her men guests.

Only that wasn't the way it was done in Fayette. You were invited to a party because your hostess liked you and you stayed because you knew you were wanted.

You had fun in Fayette. You didn't meet people who talked about people you didn't know, who smiled and smiled when you knew they were only tolerating you.

A wave of nostalgia swept over her. Nostalgia for people she knew, for places that were familiar to her. They had more fun at the country club parties or even just dropping in to somebody's house for an evening than these people had for all their expensive playthings and pastimes.

In retrospect things that Julie had forgotten came back to her with pleasant remembrance. How much fun it was to gather in a girl's bedroom before a party started, powdering your nose and talking about the little things that happened during the day. How pleasant the smells of baking ginger-bread, the fresh, clean grass-and-sunshine smell on a June day when you sat at the telephone and invited two or three people to supper. Meeting another couple after the movies and sitting over an ice-cream soda while you talked about what you had seen.

She wondered if Priscilla missed her. If Cosy had got over her hay fever. If her father had finished his experiment in the laboratory. Not for one moment did she think of Dick. She wondered what Tommy thought of the success of her exploits.

Why didn't she go home right away?

She got off her bed and took her suitcase out of the closet. She could say that she'd telephoned home and had a message to return. If she left at once she could return to her flying lessons, enjoy the sincere enthusiasm and congratulations of her friends, display her new clothes.

She put the suitcase back.

She couldn't leave Paul. For a moment she had forgotten that she was in love with him.

She loved his sleek head, his beautiful clothes, his worldly manners, the invisible aura of his wealth. He was her Prince Charming, the movie idol in the cinema of her imagination.

Perhaps he had been "sort of engaged" to Elsa Herford for years but he had called *her* his girl.

Well, she wasn't going to walk out of it now. She'd stay and see whether Elsa Herford or Julie Allerdyce was the better woman.

Elsa had the advantage of a social position equal to Paul's. She had had experience undoubtedly in handling men of her class but Julie was capable of meeting that experience. Elsa also had better clothes than Julie.

Elsa's clothes were a matter of comparison that struck Julie with a kind of cruelty. She had enjoyed her pretty new wardrobe, been confident that for all they were not expensive—but how expensive they were to her!—they were effective. Until Elsa had appeared in three costumes the day after her arrival. Three sets of clothes and accessories that Julie was quick to see were gems of taste and workmanship. Her own eleven-ninety-eight tennis dress looked worth exactly that sum beside Elsa's Paris frock. Her cotton gloves were cheap and shapeless seen with Elsa's thick white doeskins. Her things were absurdly girlish compared to the sophisticated simplicity of the other girl's frocks.

Angry tears tipped Julie's lashes into starry points and she jammed her fists into the pockets of her tweed skirt.

Just wait until she got back to Fayette! Thinking of the effect she would create there, her thoughts veered off to another effect she meant to create some day. She gave herself up to vindictive dreaming.

She saw herself in a beautiful black gown—all her clothes would be beautiful, would be created for her by the Parisian coutouriers—meeting Elsa at parties, smiling at her with an amused smile. Julie would do the smiling then. She'd invite Elsa to her various homes where Elsa would see what a perfect wife she made for Paul, see Paul's devotion.

Her thoughts returned to Paul. He was not obviously devoted to Elsa but there was an intimacy between them that her sharpened sensitiveness was quick to feel. As though she had eyes in the back of her head, she knew when they were talking together, heard the murmur of their voices above all the others.

Yet Paul had not changed toward her. That morning he had sent the maid to her to ask her if she'd play tennis with him, found moments to whisper little meaningless things that she loved to hear.

She'd see it out, prove in some way that she was superior to Elsa Herford

Her opportunity came that afternoon. Quite unexpectedly.

Nancy's sister had arrived earlier and when Julie passed Nancy's rooms on her way to the stairs, Nancy called out to her:

"Julie, do you play bridge?"

She said she did. Not adding that she was the best bridge player among the girls in Fayette. Since Christmas she'd won four bonbon dishes, eight guest towels, a dozen handkerchiefs and the Sunday-school tournament prize, a leather-bound edition of the Complete Works of Shakespeare.

"Thank the Lord! We need a fourth."

She sat down at the card table in Nancy's sitting-room. A pleasant anticipation pervaded her. It was born of a combination of her confidence in her game and the coming conflict. When they cut for partners, she had drawn Nancy as her partner. Elsa was her opponent. Nancy's sister, Kate Wyndham, didn't count. She was meeting Elsa on a field of battle with weapons she could handle with skill.

"Stakes?" Kate asked.

"The usual," Nancy answered.

In Fayette they played for a tenth. It wasn't likely they'd play in this game for more than a quarter of a cent a point. Julie thought about asking what the stakes were, thought better of it and opened the bid.

Luck was with her. She held beautiful cards, played them skillfully. Elsa was, she saw at once, a formidable opponent.

She was four hundred points ahead at the end of the first rubber.

"Nice work, partner," Kate said, and added, "I'd like a highball."

Nancy asked: "Anyone else?"

Julie said she didn't care for one. Her attention was for nothing but her game. She took a wicked delight in outplaying Elsa's skilled moves, in timing her own finesses.

They played silently, not chatting amiably and disconcertingly as they did at the Fayette games. Occasionally one of them said, "Nice play!" . . . or, "It should have worked." . . . or, "Partner, I'm sorry."

Julie had no need to say she was sorry. She played brilliantly.

Three hours later, Nancy said, "This will be the last rubber."

The scores were added up. Elsa went to get her pocketbook.

Julie discovered to her startled surprise that she had won thirty-five dollars. They'd played for half a cent.

She put the money in her purse saying as if it were of neither surprise or importance, "Thank you."

Elsa said, "You'll have to give me a game tomorrow. I want a chance to win it back."

"Certainly," Julie said courteously. She knew the ethics.

"Perhaps we can play later in the evening," Nancy said.

Julie looked forward to another game. If her luck held, she could recoup some of the money she'd spent and couldn't afford to spend. And if she lost, she couldn't lose more than she had won and would then break even.

After dinner, Paul caught her hand as she was going into the drawing room.

"I never get a chance to see you alone," he whispered. "Let's go out and look at the moon."

"Won't it look a little odd if we disappear?"

"To whom?"

He used the tone she wanted to hear. It said that there was no one there whose opinion he cared about.

She went through the door to the screen porch and down the steps into the garden.

The garden was bathed in chartreuse shot with silver. It was beautiful there and breathless with the loveliness of a summer night. She walked along a narrow path ahead of him, paused and turned back to tell him to look at the fountain in the moonlight.

When she turned, he was immediately behind her and she stepped into his arms.

He crushed her against himself, holding her so that she couldn't catch her breath.

"Oh, please Paul," she whispered, "Someone might . . ."

"I don't care about anyone! I'm mad about you." His lips were in her hair, on her eyelids, on her throat. "You're driving me crazy. You're so cool, so impersonal! You weren't like this when you were in New York. You liked me then!"

"I like you now," she whispered with what little breath she had left.

"Enough to . . .?"

She wasn't sure what the rest of his unasked question was. She wanted to be sure not to make the wrong answer. She said, "Perhaps."

(To be continued)

Copyright by Marie Blizard
Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

POLLY AND HER PALS — Girls Will Be Girls — By CLIFF STERRETT

MICKEY MOUSE — The King Is Always Right — By WALT DISNEY

LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY — Lady With a Past — BY BRANDON WALSH

TOOTS AND CASPER — A Mysterious Message — By JIMMY MURPHY

THIMBLE THEATRE—Starring Popeye — Lady in Distress — By SEGAR