Salem Market Quotations

FRUITS
(Buying Prices)
(The prices below supplied by a local grower and indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.)

Bananas, lb. on stalk	.05½
Hands	.06½
Grapefruit, Texas pinks	4.00
Regular	3.00
Lemons, crate	5.00
Oranges, crate	2.50 to 4.00
Strawberries, local	1.50

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Asparagus, local, doz.	.80
Beets, doz.	.30
Cabbage, lb.	.02½
Carrots, Calif., crt., 6 doz.	.50 to 8.50
Cauliflower, local	1.00
Celery, Utah, crate	2.00
Calif. crate	1.25
Cucumbers, hothouse, box	2.50
Lettuce, local	.90
Onions, 50 lbs.	1.25
Green onions, doz.	.20
Radishes, doz.	.20
Peas, local, lb.	.06
Peppers, green, Calif.	.30
Parsley	.40
Potatoes, local cwt., No. 1	1.10
50 lb. bags	.35
New Potatoes, Calif., cwt.	2.50
Rhubarb, outdoor	.70 to .90
Spinach, local, box	.65
Turnips, doz.	.40

NUTS
(Price paid by Independent Packing plant to grower)
Walnuts—Franquettes, fancy, 12c medium, 10c; small 8c; orchard run, 8 to 10c. Walnut meats, 25 to 30c lb.
Filberts—Barcelonas, large 12¾c; fancy 11½c; babies, 11c; orchard run 11c.
(Co-op Prices to Grower)
Walnuts—Price range, depending upon way nuts run in 14 different grades 11½-12c. Duchilly 1 cent higher.

HOPS
(Buying Prices)

Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb.	7 to .08
Clusters, 1938, lb.	.20 to .25
Fuggles, top	.23

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Prices)

Wool, medium, lb.	.25
Coarse, lb.	.25
Lambs, lb.	.22
Mohair, lb.	.27

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Prices of Andresen's) 4

Grade A large, doz.	.17
Grade B large, doz.	.15
Grade A medium	.15
Grade B medium	.13
Colored frys	.15 to .15
White Leghorns, heavy	.11
White Leghorns, light	.10
Old roosters	.05
Heavy hens, lb.	.14

MARION CREAMERY Buying Price

Butterfat, A grade	.23
Leghorn hens, over 3½ lbs	.12
Leghorn hens, under 3½ lbs	.10
Leghorn fryers, 1½ lbs.	.10
Leghorn fryers, undersize, market	value.
Colored fryers, 2-3 lbs.	.12
Colored springs, 3 lbs. and up	.13
Stags	.08
Old Roosters	.05

No. 2 grades 5c per pound less.

EGGS

Grade A large	.17
Grade A medium	.14
Grade B large	.15
Grade B medium	.13
Undergrades and chex	.13

LIVESTOCK
(Buying price for No. 1 stock, based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p.m.

Lambs, 1939, tops	7.50
Lambs, yearlings	4.00 to 4.50
Ewes	2.00 to 2.50
Hogs, top	7.25
130-150 lbs.	6.75 to 7.00
210-300 lbs.	6.50 to 6.75
Sows	5.25 to 5.75
Beef cows	5.50 to 6.00
Bulls	5.50 to 6.25
Heifers	5.50 to 7.00
Top veal	7.50
Dairy type cows	4.00 to 5.50
Dressed veal, lb.	.11

GRAIN, HAY AND SEEDS

Wheat, bu., No. 1 recleaned	.75
Oats, grey ton	28.00
White	25.00
Feed barley, ton	22.00 to 24.00
Clover hay, ton	12.00 to 13.00
Alfalfa, ton	10.00 to 16.00
Egg mash, No. 1 grade, 80 lb. bag	1.70
Dairy feed, 80 lb. bag	1.85
Hen scratch feed	1.75
Cracked corn	1.75
Wheat	1.55

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem Co-op basic pool price $1.76.

Co-op Grade A butterfat price 28c; B grade 2c less.

(Milk based on semi-monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.32.

A grade butterfat—Delivered 23c; B grade 21c.

A grade print, 26½c; B grade 25½c; quarters 27½c

Strawberry Root Weevil Appearing

The "black" strawberry root weevil is now making its appearance in the plantings of both the hill and valley floor areas, and a bait should be applied at once to the plants in infested fields, states Assistant County Agent Robert E. Rieder.

The commercial dried apple bait is effective for the control of these weevils. A formula for a good home-made bait as recommended by the Oregon experiment station is as follows: Bran, 60 pounds; water, 5 gallons; sugar, 10 pounds; calcium arsenate, 5 pounds.

Either these baits is effective and should be applied at the rate of about one teaspoonful on the crown of each plant.

The bait should not be dropped over the leaves, but placed down in the crown where the hot sun will not dry it out too quickly.

Further information on root weevil control may be had by asking for station bulletin No. 357 at the county agent's office.

Stocks Slip But not Fast

Despite Strike, Autos no Worse off Than Other Issues on Mart

NEW YORK, June 12.—(AP)—Many stock market traders stood aside today and permitted leaders to drift fractions to a point or more downward.

There was nothing particularly disturbing in the general run of news, but at the same time real stimulation for a resumption of the rally seemed to be lacking.

The Associated Press average of 60 issues was off .4 of a point at 48.1. Lightness of selling throughout was mildly encouraging to those who look upon volume as an indicator of a decisive change in direction. Transfers for the five hours totalled only 424,200 shares against 786,270 last Friday when the market was rising.

Motors Down Too

While speculative contingents had to contend with the General Motors Michigan strike, automotive shares were no worse than others. "GM" ended off ⅛ at 44⅞ and Chrysler down 1¼ at 69⅞.

U. S. Steel and Bethlehem conceded about a point each as this week's mill operations were placed at 53.1 per cent of capacity, a drop of 1.1 points.

Among retreating stocks were Montgomery Ward, Safeway Stores, Douglas Aircraft, American Telephone, Kennecott, Santa Fe, Standard Oil of NJ, Westinghouse, Johns-Manville, U. S. Gypsum and Philip Morris.

Emerging with modest improvement were Pan-American Airways, Gobel, Philadelphia Reading Coal & Iron and Eastman Kodak.

Eastburn Stroke Victim At Shop in Aumsville

AUMSVILLE—David Eastburn suffered a paralytic stroke at his home here Friday morning He was at work at his shop at the time.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wilcox are spending some time at points in California, including Antioch.

Quotations at Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., June 12.—(AP)—Dairy produce prices: Butter: Extras 25c; standards 23½c; prime firsts 22½-24c; firsts 22c; butterfat 23½-24c.

Eggs: Large extras, 19c; large standards, 17c; medium extras, 14c; medium standards 15c.

Cheese—Triplets 12½c; loaf 13½c.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., June 12.—(AP)—Country Meats—Selling price to retailers: Country-killed hogs, best butchers, under 160 lbs., 9½-10c lb.; vealers, 12c lb.; light and thin, 9-11c lb.; heavy, 9-10c lb.; spring lambs, 16c; lb.; yearling lambs, 10-12c lb.; ewes, 5-7c lb.; cutter cows, 9-10c; canner cows, 8½-9c; bulls, 11-11½c lb.

Live Poultry—Buying prices: Leghorn broilers, 12½-13c lb.; colored springs, 2 lbs. and over, 13-14c lb.; Leghorn hens, over 3½ lbs., 14c lb.; under 3½ lbs. 13c lb.; colored hens to 5 lbs., 15-16c lb.; over 5 lbs., 15c lb.; No. 2 grade, 5c lb. less.

Turkeys—Selling price: Dressed hens, 17-18c lb.; toms, 16-17c lb. Buying prices: Hens, 15-16c lb.; toms, 14-15c lb.

Potatoes—Yakima Gems, (—) cental; local, 1.00; Deschutes Gems, 1.25 cental; Klamath Falls, No. 1 Gems, 1.15-1.20 crt.

New Potatoes—California Whites, No. 1, 1.90-2.00 per cwt.

Onions—Oregon No. 1, 1.80 per cental; California wax, 90c; red, 90c-1.00; yellow, 90c-1.00 per 50-lb. sack.

Wool — Willamette valley, 1939 clip, nominal med, 25c lb.; coarse and braids, 25-26c lb.; 6 months fleece, 22-24c lb.; eastern Ore., 18-21c lb.

Hay—Selling price to retailers: Alfalfa, No. 1, 16.00 ton; oat vetch, 12.00 ton; clover, 11.00 ton; timothy, eastern Ore., 19.00; do valley, 14.00 ton, Portland.

Hops—1938 Clusters, 20-25c lb.; Fuggles, 23c lb.

Mohair—Nominal, 1939 clip, 25c lb.

Cascara Bark—Buying price, 1939 peel, 4c lb.

Sugar—Berry and fruit, 100s, 5.10; bale 5.25; beet 5.05.

Domestic Flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25-bbl lots: Family patent, 40s, 5.70-6.25; bakers' hard wheat, net, 4.10-5.60; bakers' bluestem, 4.80-5.10; blended wheat flour, 4.80-5.20; soft wheat 4.50-4.55; graham, 49s, 4.50; whole wheat 49s, 4.95. bbl.

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., June 12.—(AP)—

Wheat:	Open	High	Low	Close
July	73½	73½	72½	73½

Cash Grain: Oats—No. 2, 38-lb. white, 29.00; No. 2, 38 lb. gray —. Barley, No. 2, 45-lb. BW, 26.00. Corn, No. 2, EY shipment, 26.75. Flax, No. 1, 1.79.

Cash Wheat Bid: Soft white, 72½; western white, 72½; western red 71. Hard red winter ordinary 71; 11 per cent, 72; 12 per cent 74; 13 per cent 79; 14 per cent —. Hard white-Baart ordinary —; 11 per cent —; 12 per cent 79; 13 per cent 82; 14 per cent 84.

Today's Car Receipts: Wheat 75; barley 8; flour 20; corn 8; oats 3; hay 0; millfeed 6.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., June 12.—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts salable 1750, total 2800. Market active. Price range: Barrows and gilts, gd ch.

160-180 lbs.	$6.75@ 7.35
do gd-ch, 160-180 lbs.	7.00@ 7.50
do gd-ch, 200-220 lbs.	7.35@ 7.50
do gd-ch, 220-250 lbs.	7.00@ 7.50
do gd-ch, 220-250 lbs.	6.75@ 7.35
do gd-ch, 250-290 lbs.	6.35@ 7.00
do gd-ch, 290-350 lbs.	6.00@ 6.50
do med, 140-160 lbs.	6.50@ 7.00
Packing sows, good, 275-350 lbs.	5.25@ 5.75
do good 350-425 lbs.	5.25@ 5.50
do good 425-550 lbs.	5.00@ 5.50
do med 275-550 lbs.	4.75@ 5.25
Pigs, feeder and stocker, gd-ch, 70-140 lbs	6.50@ 7.50

Cattle: Receipts salable 1850, total 2250; calves 250. Price range:

Steers, good, 900-1100	$ 9.25@ 9.75
do medium, 750-1100	8.00@ 9.25
do com (plain), 750-1100	6.75@ 8.00
Heifers, good, 750-900	8.50@ 9.00
do medium, 550-900	7.50@ 8.50
do com (plain) 550-900	5.75@ 7.50
Cows, good, all weights	6.50@ 7.25
do medium, all weights	5.50@ 6.50
do com (plain) all wts	4.75@ 5.50
do low-cut-cut, all wts	3.75@ 4.75
Bulls (yigs excl), gd (beef) all weights	6.50@ 7.00
do medium, all wts	5.75@ 6.75
do cut-com (pln) all wts	5.75@ 6.75
Vealers, choice, all wts	8.00@ 8.50
do good, all wts	7.50@ 8.00
do med, all wts	6.00@ 7.50
do cull-com (pln) all wts	4.50@ 6.00
Calves, medium, 250-400	5.50@ 7.00
do com (plain), 250-400	4.50@ 5.50

Sheep: Receipts salable 1400. Price range:

Spring lambs, gd & choice	$ 8.00@ 8.40
Spring lambs, gd & choice	$ 8.00@ 8.25
do medium and good	7.00@ 7.75
common (plain)	6.00@ 6.75
Lambs (shorn) med & good	5.00@ 5.50
do common (plain)	4.00@ 5.00
Ewes (shorn), good-choice	2.25@ 3.40
do common (plain) med.	1.25@ 2.50

Stocks and Bonds

June 12
STOCK AVERAGES
Compiled by The Associated Press

	30 Indus	15 Rails	15 Util	60 Stocks
Net Chg.	D .5	D .5	D .2	D .4
Monday	68.3	18.3	37.8	48.1
Previous day	68.8	18.8	38.0	48.5
Month ago	65.0	18.0	36.8	45.9
Year ago	55.6	13.1	29.2	38.2
1939 high	77.0	23.8	40.0	53.4
1939 low	58.8	15.7	33.7	41.6

BOND AVERAGES

	20 Rails	10 Indus	10 Util	10 Forgn
Net Chg.	D .4	Unch	D .1	D .1
Monday	58.0	100.2	96.6	62.7
Precious day	58.4	100.2	96.7	62.8
Month ago	55.4	99.1	95.0	60.6
Year ago	48.6	95.9	90.1	62.5
1939 high	64.9	100.7	96.7	64.0
1939 low	53.4	97.0	91.9	58.2

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, June 12—(AP)—(USDA)—Quotations were very firm in the Boston wool market today although demand was slower than a week ago. Most users appeared to have their urgent requirements pretty well covered by stocks on hand by wools recently purchased direct now en route to Boston. Country packed mixed grade lots of three-eighths and one-quarter blood bright fleeced wool offered from the country were quoted mostly at 31 to 32 cents, in the grease, delivered east. Average 12-month Texas wools offered from the country were firmly quoted at 66 to 67 cents, scoured basis, delivered east and only moderate quantities were reported available at those prices.

Wheat Values Tumble Cent

Market Slumps Sharply at End After Holding Fairly Even

CHICAGO, June 12.—(AP)—Wheat values fell more than a cent a bushel today to the lowest level in about three weeks in a final hour wave of liquidation blamed largely on favorable crop reports from the northwest and greatly increased movement of new wheat in the southwest.

After holding steady most of the session, scoring a small ¼ cent gain at times, the market slumped rather sharply at the last and closed at the day's lows. July contracts fell from 74⅞ to 73⅛.

The close found prices 1⅛-1⅝ lower than Saturday, July 73¼-⅛, September 73⅞-¾. Other grains broke with wheat.

Gardeners' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., June 12.—(AP)—(USDA)—Produce price changes:

Apples—Ore. Newtowns, med to lge. ex fcy, 1.40-1.50; fcy, 1.20-1.30; Wash. Winesaps, ex fcy, 1.50-1.65; fcy 1.25-1.35; comb. ex fcy and loose, 3-3½c lb.; Romes, ex fcy, 1.65-1.75.

Apricots—Calif., 75c flat.

Artichokes—Calif., 1.40-1.50.

Avocados—Calif., 1.40.

Asparagus—Ore., Wash., strings 75c-$1.

Beans—Ore., green, 5-7c; wax 8-9c.

Celery—Calif., Utah, 1.60-1.80; white, .50-2.75

Cabbage—Round head, 1.00-1.35.

Cantaloupes — Calif., stds, 45s, 3.15-3.25; jumbo, 36-45s, 3.15-3.40.

Cherries — Ore., Wash., Bings, 6-7c. Royal Annes, 5-6c.

Carrots—Calif. 50 lbs. sacked, 1.50-1.65; bunched crates, 2.00-2.35.

Cauliflower — Local, 9-11s, 1.00-1.10; No. 2, 75c.

Celery—Calif. Utah, 1.75-2.00; white, 2.00-2.25.

Citrus Fruit—Grapefruit, Texas marsh, seedless, 2.85-3.00; Arizona fancy, 2.25-2.50; choice, 1.75-1.85, Florida, all sizes, 3.00-3.25.

Gooseberries—5½-6½c lb.

Garlic—8-10c.

Lemons—Fancy, all sizes, 4.75-5.00; 300s, 5.25; choice 50c less.

Limes—Dox. carton, 20-25c

Lettuce—Local dry, 65-75c; poor, 35c.

Oranges—California navels, large, 4.00 box; Valencias, large 4.00-4.15; small to medium 2.25-4.00.

Cucumbers—Hothouse, doz., 1.50-1.75. box 2½-4 doz. Calif, lugs, 1.25-1.35.

Lettuce—Local dry, 3-4 doz, 80-90c; top $1; poor 60c.

Mushrooms—Cultivated, 1 lb., 80-85c.

Onions—Ore. yellows, 50-lb. sacks, US medium 70c-1.00; lge, top 1.35; No. 2, 50 lb. sacks, 50-60c; Calif. wax, 75-80c; reds, 85-90c; yellow, 85-1.00.

Peaches—Calif. 4 bskt, 1.90-2.00.

Peas—Ore., bush, 4½-5c; Wash. 5-6c.

Peppers—Florida, 27-30c lb.

Potatoes—Ore. Deschutes Russets, No. 1, 100 lbs. 1.00-1.10; 25 lb. sk., 32-35c; US No. 2, 50 lb. sks, 37½-40c; Calif. Long Whites, US No. 1, 100 lb. sks, 1.65-1.70.

Raspberries—2.25-2.50.

Rhubarb—Ore., lettuce crate 95c-1.10.

Squash—Ore. Zucchini, 70-80c flat; scallop, 1.00-1.25; Crookneck, 1.00-1.25.

Strawberries—Oregon, best, 24 basket crates, 1.85-2.00; poor, low as 1.50.

Spinach—Ore., 35-45c orange box.

Tomatoes—Ore. hothouse, 10-15c; Tex. lug, 1.75-2.00; Calif. 18 lb. 1.60-1.75.

Bunched Vegetables: Local per doz. bunches; onion 17½-20c, radishes 20-80c; parsley, 17½-20c; Calif., beets, 45c-50c.

Root Vegetables: Rutabagas 1.25-1.50 per sack, lugs 50-60c, beets 1.25-1.50 lugs 35-40c. Horseradish 15c lb.

Closing Quotations

NEW YORK, June 12.—(AP)—Today's closing prices:

Allied Stores	9½	Comwlth & Sou.	1¼	Natl Dairy Prod	16⅜
AmericanCan	95⅞	Consol Edison	31¼	National Dist	26
Amer For Power	2⅝	Consol Oil	7⅞	Natl Power & Lt	7⅞
Am Power & Lt.	4⅝	Corn Products	64½	Northern Pacific	8¾
Am Rad Std San	12⅛	Curtiss Wright	5⅝	Packard Motors	3¼
Am Roll Mills	14¼	Douglas Aircraft	67½	J C Penney	88
Am Smelt & Ref	42½	Du Pont de N.	149½	Phillips Petrol	35¾
Am Tel & Tel.	168½	Elec Power & Lt	8	Press Steel Car.	8⅜
Am Tobacco	85	Erie RR	1⅜	Pub Service NJ	37⅝
Am Water Wks.	9⅞	General Electric	36⅛	Pullman	26⅞
Anaconda	24⅝	General Foods	44⅞	Safeway Stores	43
Armour Ill	4	General Motors.	44⅞	Sears Roebuck	75⅞
Atchison	28⅝	Goodyear Tire	28½	Sou Cal Edison.	27⅛
Barnsdall	14¼	Great Northern.	21⅝	Southern Pacific	13
Balt & Ohio	5⅛	Hudson Motors.	5	Stand Brands	6⅝
Bendix Aviation	23¼	Illinois Central	12½	Stand Oil Calif.	26¼
Beth Steel	57⅝	Insp Copper	11	Stand Oil NJ	44¼
Boeing Air	22½	Int Harvester	60¾	Studebaker	⅞
Borge Warner	24½	Int Nickel Can.	49⅜	Sup Oil	2⅛
Budd Mfg	4⅝	Int Paper & P Pf	32⅞	Timk Roll Bear	40¾
Calif Pack	18	Int Tel & Tel.	6⅝	Trans-America	6
Callahan Z-L	1	Johns Manville	73½	Union Carbide	80¼
Calumet Hec.	5⅜	Kennecott	33½	United Aircraft.	36¼
Canadian Pacific	4⅝	Libbey-O-Ford	47½	United Airlines.	10⅝
J I Case	79¾	Lig & Myers B.	107¼	US Rubber	42⅞
Caterpil Tractor	44½	Loew's	46¼	US Steel	48
Celanese	18¼	Monty Ward	51½	Walworth	5½
Ches & Ohio	32½	Nash Kelvinator	6⅞	Western Union	20⅝
Chrysler	69⅞	National Biscuit	27⅝	White Motors	9
Coml Solvent	10½	National Cash.	18½	Woolworth	47⅞

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"AIR MAIL BRIDE"

by HAZEL LIVINGSTON

CHAPTER XXIII

Marie must have cried a little, for the pleasant old man who sat opposite her so often at the magazine table looked at her sadly and questioningly.

She managed a smile.

"Bad time of the year for colds," he said.

She could have hugged him. "I know—I've got an awful one."

Out of his pocket he brought a small wax paper package, unwrapped it carefully. "I always carry a lozenge or two on account of my bronchitis," he said. "Would you care for one?"

She smiled at him damply. "Thanks a lot!" she said sincerely. What did it matter that she didn't have a cold and the thing tasted like coal-oil and soap?

Why couldn't Mr. Wilson have been like that, gentle and sweet? Why did he have to go poking into poor Bee's business, going to Ritchie Huntsman's bank and making a fuss? It might even cost Ritchie his job—and then where would he be, even if he'd wanted to marry Bee?

Guilty she thought of the things Ritchie had said to her, nights he had been waiting for Bee. The compliments he had whispered in her ear. The bold, questionable compliments. The big brotherly pats that somehow weren't brotherly at all. The long, appraising looks. His reluctant departures with Bee. . . .

But it wasn't my fault, she tried to reassure herself, staring unseeingly at "a design for a rose garden" in "Country Life." I didn't think he meant anything—

Her nice old man was looking at her again. "When it's a bad head cold like that," he said gently, "the place for you, really, is bed. Do you live far away?"

She dabbed at her wet eyes, blew her nose. "I think you're right. No, I don't live far away—just up the hill—on Shalimar—"

She closed the magazine, smiled goodbye.

Why couldn't all old men be nice like that? Charlie wasn't so old, but he was nice, too. Mr. Wilson (she couldn't call him Pop, and, anyway, he'd never asked her to) was always so jumpy and irritable, even when he tried to be nice.

Of course, her nice old man in the library, and Charlie, didn't work. They didn't worry about money. Maybe, by the time a man got to be as old as Mr. Wilson, and had worked day in and day out for all those years, commuting to San Francisco, punching a time clock, selling tickets, or counting tickets, or whatever it was he did in the railway office where he'd worked so long, he'd naturally get irritable and unreasonable.

Walking up the hill in the warm spring sun, passing lawns and roses, and listening to bird songs, she felt benign and broad-minded, because she "understood" Mr. Wilson.

As she turned up Shalimar and saw the house, with all its curtainless windows, like dead eyes, and a scrub-bucket on the front steps, her broad-mindedness dwindled a little.

Why couldn't Mrs. Wilson be through by 3 o'clock in the afternoon? And if she couldn't manage it all by herself (and the house needed no cleaning, anyway) why didn't she take help when Marie offered it, decently, at 8 o'clock in the morning?

Her footsteps slowed as she rounded the walk to the rear of the house. She knew what she'd find inside.

There was no one downstairs. All the furniture was crowded into the hall, except the chesterfield and the piano and the dining-room table. The rugs were up. The floors looked oily and damp.

Sounds of cleaning came from upstairs.

The kitchen was just as it had been left after lunch. Breakfast dishes piled on one end of the drainboard, lunch dishes still on the table. Chaos everywhere, even to orange rinds and potato peeling in the sink.

Marie looked around with disgust.

She'd offered to do the dishes and Mrs. Wilson had said curtly that she wasn't ready to work in the kitchen yet.

She certainly didn't feel like doing anything about it now, but if the house was to be straightened out before Bee and Mr. Wilson got home from work, there was no time to lose.

Reluctantly — her pleasant "understanding" all forgotten, and only antipathy left, she put on Bee's rubber apron, and started in. She didn't mind doing the dishes, but why did Mrs. Wilson have to dump everything into the sink? She and Julie put everything into paper bags, then into the garbage can—never made a mess!

Well, it was finished. She scrubbed the sink again, for luck. The kitchen floor was next. She might as well scrub it. Julie and the good-natured Mexican woman who came twice a week to help, always used a mop, but Mrs. Wilson scorned mops. Very well, Marie would get down on her hands and knees, too.

At half-past four, just as she was finishing, Mrs. Wilson came downstairs.

"Oh, you're doing the floor," she said.

That was all. Not a word of thanks. Not a sign of appreciation.

Angrily, Marie gathered up soap and pail. "Do you want me to help you put the living-room and dining-room things back?" she asked stiffly.

Just as stiffly Mrs. Wilson said, "I'm not through upstairs yet! . . .

"Could I do it alone?"

"I can't imagine it!"

Very well, Marie thought, angrily, just as you like. She went upstairs to her own room, which, thank heaven, her mother-in-law kept out of, and wrote a letter to Julie.

But when it was finished she tore it up.

It was too revealing.

She tried again. That, too, was a failure. She tore that up. There was just time to powder her nose and comb back her hair as Edward, his father, and Bee came into the house together.

Edward ran upstairs two steps at a time. "You don't happen to know if my dress shirt is clean, do you?" he asked.

Marie didn't.

He started through the bureau drawers, crumpling the other shirts that she had ironed so carefully.

She wanted to say, "Are we going somewhere?" It had been weeks since they had dressed up and gone out together. Her one formal, the peach faille with the high neck and low back, and the sweet little jacket with big sleeves, had been worn just once since she brought it from Hollywood.

Presently Edward said, "I'm sorry I can't take you, honey. This is a stupid dinner, but I won't call it time wasted if I get a job out of it. Friends of Helene's—lousy with money."

"Do they know you're married?" she asked in a low voice.

He looked so beautiful in his dinner clothes. No one could tie a tie just the way he could. No one could wear clothes better. His "tux" was three years old. On anyone else it would have looked what it was—cheap. On Edward it was perfect.

His fair hair lay back smoothly, but not too smoothly. He looked, in the cheap suit, the five and dime cuff-links and studs like a young aristocrat. Arrogantly he answered, "They don't care whether I'm married or not. If they give me a chance it won't be because I'm married, or not married. For heavens sake, don't make it any harder than you can help. It's tough enough now!"

There was nothing to say.

"Dinner's ready," Mrs. Wilson called, wearily.

They sat around the kitchen table, each with his or her own grievance. Immediately after dinner Bee put on her hat, started for the door.

"Take the car, why don't you?" Mr. Wilson said, "I won't be needing it."

"No, thanks, I'm being met. And you needn't tell me you won't need the car, I know that Ed is gone and there's no one to drive you!"

"Marie drives!" he said, explosively.

Bee turned to her savagely. "Don't! Don't start it. Don't start anything in this house you don't want to be stuck with the rest of your life!"

Mrs. Wilson put down her dishcloth, followed Bee into the hall. "That's enough," she said coldly. "If you're going, go along. No one is asking Marie to do anything."

"Just the same," Bee called, "take my advice. Once you start you're sunk."

Later as they finished the dishes, Mrs. Wilson said, "Bee isn't herself lately. I'm going to take her to see Dr. Shepherd. I think she needs a tonic."

"She does look tired," Marie said.

She, too, was tired, but nobody seemed interested.

Encouraged, Mrs. Wilson chatted on.

"Bee wasn't herself last night. I don't want you to think anything of it. Bee's a good girl. Papa wasn't himself either, or he wouldn't have shouted down at her like that, when she and Ritchie were parked in the car. Papa has been worried too.

"Men worry so much about their positions, I think, and still they always have positions. The older men, I mean. I told him Bee had a right to park outside and talk to Ritchie if she wants to, but it does seem foolish. Why did they come here first, when she knew she had to drive him back to town?"

Marie could have told her that it was because the old oak tree offered a marvelous parking spot for petting, but she said nothing.

Mrs. Wilson rattled right along. "Of course, you won't repeat anything you overheard last night. They were all overwrought. It was just nothing. Just nothing at all."

Later, Edward, too, said that it would all come to nothing. For a time it seemed that they were right. The first of May came, and nothing was said. Bee paid her board, forty dollars.

"Could you let me have five and a half more, for the ice box?" her mother asked.

She must have said no, for presently Mrs. Wilson came again to Edward. Marie's heart sank. Why ask Edward? But Edward put his hand in his pocket, pulled out a crumpled ten dollar bill. "Maybe I'll let you have some more next week."

With all their eyes upon him he said, "Oh, I just got a few dollars, helping Ches Elliott out in the haberdashery shop. Just part time stuff."

"No chance of it being permanent, Ed?" Bee asked.

Edward shook his head. "Isn't likely."

"Well, then you'd better find something else, Ed Wilson, because I've paid my last forty. That's a month in advance, and practically a present. I'm leaving Monday. I'm really through at the office now, but I'm staying through Saturday to help the new girl. No, I'm not crazy. I told Pop and everyone else who happened to be listening, that I was leaving. Didn't you hear me?"

(To Be Continued)

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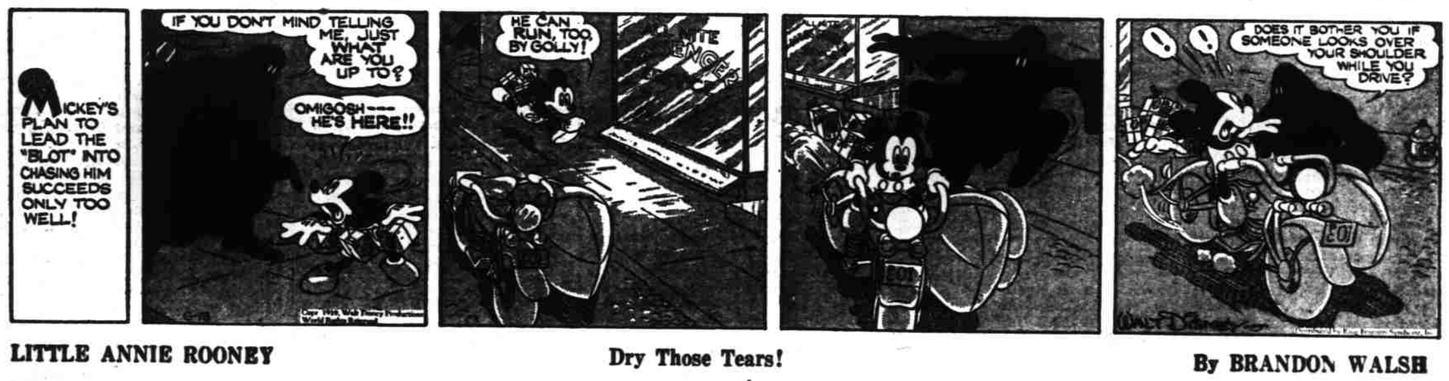

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