

# The Wall Flower

By MARION RUBINCAM

## A BARGAIN

Chapter 33

Dora was to see Mrs. Gates again before that lady left. The day after Aunt Maude and Gladys arrived, Dora was sent in town to ask Mrs. Gates to come and see the furniture.

"You go, Gladys, and hunt her up. I'm not going to miss a chance to make some extra money," Aunt Maude declared. "Then you can visit with Mortie a while."

"Send Dora too, I don't want to see any fussy furniture buyer, I've someone more interesting to talk to in town," Gladys answered. So on this suggestion Dora went, delighted at an excuse to hunt up her new friend.

She passed Francis in the yard, with a very red headed woman wearing a long gray linen cape and a close fitting cap with a gray veil floating down over her cap. Dora had never seen such a costume, did not know it as the correct English nurse's outfit, and thought the young woman a sort of nun.

She found Gloria in a fine rage in the living room of the old fashioned house.

"They say I'm a bad woman here because I wear low cut dresses in the evening and tea gowns in the afternoon," Gloria announced to explain her wrath. Her nervous face was drawn up in a frown again.

"But my dear—it was very low and they're not used to that sort of thing here," interposed Mrs. Innisley mildly.

"Do them good to see it once in a while then!" snapped Gloria.

"They say also that I'm bad because I'm not living with my husband—a man may be too evil or too disagreeable for a self respecting woman to put up with, but in this precious town, if she leaves him she is condemned. They also say I can't be good because I make my own living and support my son—and have what they call the extravagant luxury of a nurse for him. As though I could be child's nurse and run a business!"

"Dear, it's only because they heard you paid \$300 for one dress," Mrs. Innisley interposed again.

"Goodness!" Dora said without

thinking, "Aunt Maude only paid \$200 for Gladys' trousseau—and that included the fare."

This made both women laugh. "Splendid!" cried Gloria. "It was your uncle who started these stories about me. I was going to offer him \$600 for his furniture, now I'll make it \$300—and serve him right."

Which she did the next day, driving out with Morton. Uncle Peter refused, he had plenty of money and when it came to parting with the old pieces he had been brought up with, he found himself suddenly reluctant. Also—and this was the more important reason, he knew that "old stuff" was worth money. How much he didn't know—but he wanted a thousand to build a new barn.

An amusing incident occurred while Mrs. Gates was at the farm. As she started back toward the little old house with Aunt Maude, Uncle Peter, and Dora, Morton started too. Gladys, from the kitchen, called sharply:

"Morton! Come here!"

And Morton started back. Gloria turned amazed eyes upon Dora.

"Good Lord, he went!" she murmured. "And they say this is a man's world!" Her fine eyes rested intently upon her comrade a moment. Dora felt as though every secret in her life were being dragged forth under that searching gaze.

"What was the matter child? Didn't you like him?" she asked softly.

Then she was answered by the whiteness of the girl's cheeks and the tightly drawn expression around her mouth. It was a curious expression.

"When I'm in pain," Dora once wrote in her diary, "I feel as though my lips were drawn back taut around my teeth—like the shrunken dead skin on a corpse. I must look frightful then."

But the bargain was struck by Gladys, when the party returned to the big farmhouse again.

"Take the money," Gladys urged. "It's just what my clothes came to—then father can't rave because of what my trousseau cost."

Mrs. Gates casually pulled three \$100 bills from her purse, and asked for a receipt. She would have the stuff shipped to her offices the next day, she said.

At parting she turned to Aunt Maude:

"I've become such friends with your niece—I want her to come to a small party tomorrow, the night before I leave."

"Dora can't go that far alone."

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thank you," Aunt Maude answered briefly.

Dora went to the carriage. Morton made an unwise suggestion. "I'll come for her," he offered.

There was a silence, laden heavily with everything Aunt Maude wanted to say, but didn't dare. She looked from Morton to Gladys and back to Mrs. Gates. Aunt Maude's glance showed that Morton, engaged to Gladys, should take no other girls to parties. Dora refused.

When Mrs. Gates urged her as they stood alone at the carriage, she begged, "Please, please don't. I wouldn't dare—really."

"Poor lamb!" Gloria murmured—and drove away.

Tomorrow—Wedding Plans.

## 8,000 May Come To Convention

(Continued from page 1)

Next few days, Central Oregon legionnaires will work on the mile high road May 31, Sunday. The Eugene legionnaires, 150 in number, will attack the pass snow fields from the west side, the two crews, aggregating probably 300 men, to meet on the summit. All persons who would like to spend a day in the pass country are being invited to "grab a shovel and come along," whether legion men or not.

The summit field day committee of the various posts are headed by Frank R. Prince, Bend; Phil Dobson, Redmond, and May McKinnon, Prineville. Mason in his talk to the legion men said that the bureau of

public roads had assured him that the pass would be open before the convention. The Oregonian news reel camera man will probably be present.

### Bend Delegates Named

Delegates to the state convention were named by the Percy A. Stevens post at last night's meeting, presided over by John Runge, commander. These delegates are S. H. Brown, John Runge and Charles Erskine. Alternates are Jephtha Smith, Leon Devereaux, Frank McCord and Phil Brogan. With its present membership of more than 150 men, the Bend post is entitled to three delegates to the state convention.

Carl Moser, adjutant of the department of Oregon of the American Legion, was present at the meeting. He briefly outlined the legion endorsement campaign, which is to be held jointly with the campaign to raise \$60,000 for the Dornbacher hospital in Portland. When Governor Pierce at the last session of the state legislature vetoed the appropriation for the maintenance of the proposed hospital for two years, the legion took upon itself the task of securing the necessary funds.

Talks were made at the local meeting by Malson, Asa Battles, W. T. McDonald and others of the visiting representatives. McDonald is commander of the Redmond post.

The \$12.50 "kitty" went to George Carroll. The regular meeting was followed by the serving of refreshments.

The professors of the University of Christians are appointed by the king of Norway.

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THIS THING OF GOIN ON A DIET AN WALKIN TEN MILES A DAY FER ME HEALTH IS MAKIN AN INVALID OUT OF ME.

THANK GOODNESS THAT'S OVER NOW FER ME CRACKER AN GLASS OF MILK!

WHERE'S ME FEED?

OH, I FORGOT TO TELL YOU - THE MILKMAN DIDN'T SHOW UP TODAY.

YOU'LL HAVE TO WALK TO THE STORE AND GET SOME IT'S ONLY A MILE AWAY.

rested and Count

Judy were night and ed to Bend fling a hotel. about paying at hotel, it is stage yester. The Dalles and from there to as given a war- in at 11:30 last the Portland post in time to have arrested as they left The Dalles in Port-