

The Wall Flower

By MARION RUBINCAM

HOME AGAIN

Chapter 65

Unexpectedly, it was Aunt Maude who met the train.

"My land, but you look expensive," she remarked after a perfunctory kiss. Did Mrs. Gates give you that suit, or did you buy it with your own money?"

"I bought it," Pan answered, and wondered why she should resent this remark. Surely, one's aunt had a perfect right to ask such personal questions!

Aunt Maude thought so, at least. She went straight along.

"That's a nice hat—sort of odd, but nice. How much did it cost?" "I don't know," the girl answered, still stifling her irritation.

"Oh, Mrs. Gates gave it to you? Well, it does look like the sort of things she wore."

"She did give it to me, but she never wore it. I can't wear her type of clothes," Pan tried to explain.

"Type of clothes! My land, don't you sound grand! Clothes are clothes, some cost more than others, if you mean type by that. Gladys says you wear a nurse's uniform, like that nun's rig the nurse wore here last summer."

"Gladys is quite wrong," Pan said calmly, then regretted the "quite." Somehow Norris City never used "quite." Its distinctions were as hard and sharp as black from white, "quite" implied shades of meaning with which Norris City never bothered.

She hastened to ask:

"How is Gladys?"

This was enough to divert Aunt Maude.

"Oh, doing fine. We've been making baby clothes. Did you bring anything from the stores in the city?"

Pan was glad she had remembered a package of dainty little objects suitable for a newly born infant. It was this package, indeed, which started her visit pleasantly. Some few letters had been exchanged; Gladys was consumed with curiosity about her cousin. She did not recognize, in the slim, self-possessed

attractively dressed young figure that jumped lightly from the wagon, the impossible shabby, terrified little creature who had departed six months before.

For the first time, she disliked herself. She felt huge, awkward, cumbersome, out of date, out of the world, beside the once snubbed Pandora. Pan's greeting, indeed, was pleasant—but lacking in either affection or gratitude, and somehow Gladys felt she should expect both from her cousin.

Pan ran to her father, here was the magnet, here the reason for her week end home. And she greeted Morton, when he drove out a little later, without a single feeling but one of quiet friendliness.

They sat in the big farm house "sitting room" after supper—it was a little too chilly for the porch in the evenings. Pan was piled with questions—and she was led into telling more and more of her new life, she felt the atmosphere congeal.

Aunt Maude could not understand such a life. And what she could not understand, she could not approve of.

"What does a woman want her own business for anyway?" she asked. "If she's so attractive, she must have plenty of men wanting to marry her. Why doesn't she take one and settle down—then she could look after her son."

"She is married, she doesn't live with her husband," Gladys interrupted, her voice showing that any woman who elected to be independent was quite likely very bad indeed.

"Why should she live with him? He came back to New York, and she was so upset she was ill for weeks. How can you disapprove, Gladys? You don't know what he was like—I do. No self-respecting woman would have anything to do with him."

Aunt Maude took a new line. "Are all these men who come to her house—do they come to see her or you?"

"Her, I suppose," Pan answered. "Why not?"

"Well, Dora," Aunt Maude concluded, using the girl's old nickname. "I think you're not in good company and had better come home. Gladys can help more with the work after the baby's born, and in the winter, they'll live in their own house, summer on the farm with us."

"I'm sorry," said Pan, knowing guiltily that she wasn't sorry at all, "but I've promised Gloria to stay, she can't get on without me. And we're going to Europe for the summer."

This was impressive enough! Even Uncle Peter looked up from the paper he was reading. Her own father was delighted, he began talking of all the old villages and towns he had wandered into, told her what to eat so she wouldn't be sea sick, asked for picture postcards while she was away.

Gladys was growing sullen. Dora

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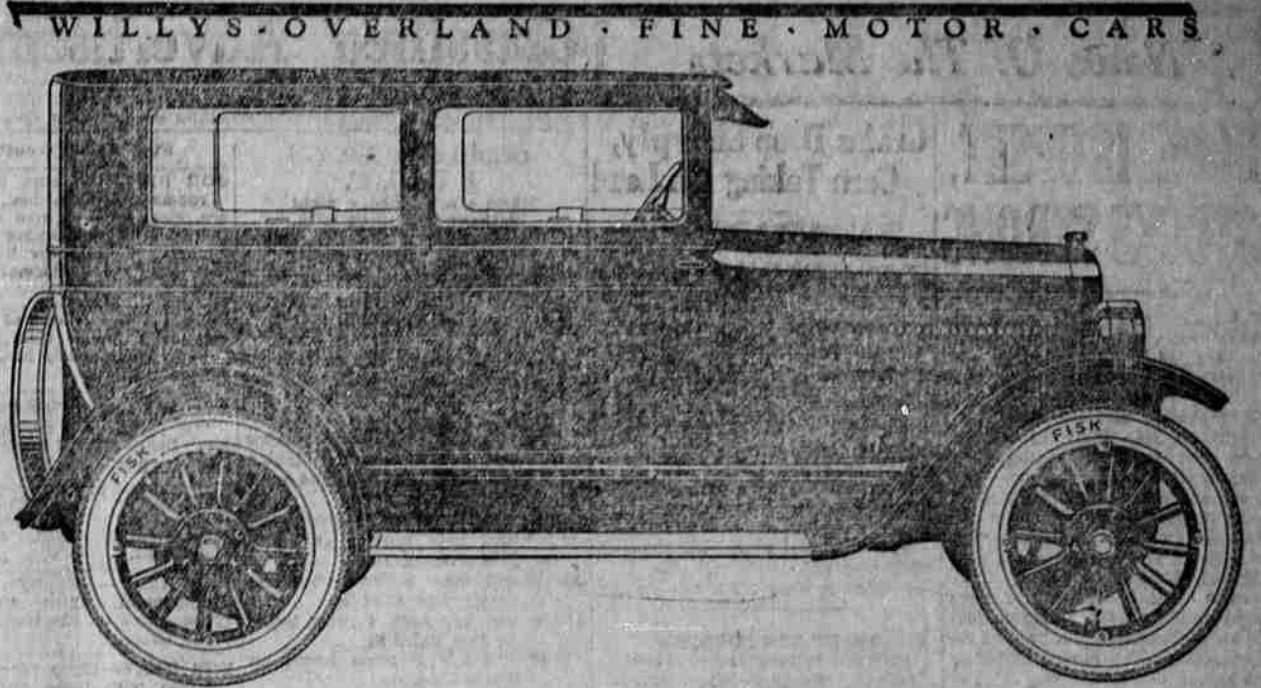
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was having entirely too much of this world's goods! Dora was getting everything—fine clothes, trips to Europe, dances and parties—well, she thought, anyway she hasn't got a husband. And she looked placid again as she glanced over at Morton. Tomorrow—A Cablegram.

President of Whitman Resigns, Sight Fails

(U. P. Leased Wire to The Bend Bulletin) WALLA WALLA, Wash., June 13.—Dr. Stephen B. L. Penrose, for 51 years president of Whitman college, tendered his resignation to the board of overseers today in his annual report.

He said he wanted the board to feel free to dispose of the situation which has developed because of his impaired sight.

He indicated he would be willing to remain as president, however, if the board saw fit to obtain for him a suitable assistant.

Ad Club Scholarship Is Awarded to Burns Boy

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, June 13.—The annual scholarship of \$150 offered by the Advertising Club of Portland to University of Oregon advertising students was won this year by Wayne Leland of Salem and Frank Logan of Burns. The scholarship was divided this year

because of the equal showing made by the two students. They did the outstanding work in the advertising course and in extra-curricular advertising activities.

The terms of the scholarship provide that it shall be awarded to the man in the school of journalism who is considered best qualified to profit by the training offered for entrance into the field of advertising. Last year the winner was James Leake of Portland, the retiring manager of the Daily Emerald, student body paper.

NAVY CREW ON HAND

(U. P. Leased Wire to The Bend Bulletin) POUGHKEEPSIE, June 13.—With the arrival of the Cornell crews on Monday, the field that is to row in the intercollegiate championships on the Hudson on June 22 will be complete. The navy crews, arriving earlier than they were expected, are

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ready to go on the water today to finish their training. Washington is still held the favorite, with the navy and Pennsylvania next in favor. Unlike most dogs, the greyhound hunts as much by sight as by scent, the narrow muzzle and small nostrils affecting the sense of smell.

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