

"Mother Ann"

By GERTRUDE SCHALK
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WNU Service.

The blue candles burned low on the tiny desk. Mary Larew slowly moved the plume of her pen back and forth in the flickering light. The line between the cloudy gray eyes grew deeper.

"Dearest Tony..." No... "Dear Tony..." "My Dear Tony..." "Oh, it is so hard." Tears of vexation gathered unwillingly in the corners of her eyes.

"What is so hard, Mary?" The quiet voice came from the big comfy chair near the fireplace. Mary was startled for a moment; she had forgotten her roommate Ellen's existence.

Mary started to speak and hesitated. Finally, with obvious reluctance, she turned to her friend. "Well, I suppose I may as well tell you now as later. I am not going to marry Tony. I don't say anything," as Ellen opened her mouth in incredulous amazement, "I have made up my mind."

She paced restlessly up and down the firelit room, her slim boyish figure swaying with a grace peculiarly her own. Ellen, startled out of her usual placidity, gazed at her in surprise.

"Mae!... What has Tony done?" "Nothing!" snapped Mary, as she dodged a table and kicked a cushion out of her way. "But, I feel it coming!"

"Feel what coming?" muttered Ellen in bewilderment. "You've been engaged only a week."

"I know it. And I also know that in about two more weeks he'll begin to murmur sweetly in my ear 'How nice it would be to live with Mother Ann! Mother Ann!'"

"Mother Ann!... I'm so sick of her name I could scream; Morning, noon and night; breakfast, dinner, supper—'Mother Ann'... I won't do it! I won't live with any mother-in-law!"

Ellen scratched her left eyebrow, a sure sign of unusual mental activity. At last she spoke. "I wouldn't be too precipitous, if I were you, Mary. You..."

"For a goodness sake, don't preach!" broke in Mary. Inwardly she added, "Anyway, what do you know about such affairs? You've never had a fellow." Even the best of friends are sometimes catty.

"As I was saying, you love Tony and he loves you. Would you throw away a good man's love just because he wanted to unite the two dearest possessions he has—his mother and his wife?"

Mary paused in her swift walk; she had never heard that note in Ellen's voice before. The firelight touched her plain face and gave it beauty of a pensive sort. Mary stared.

"Let me tell you a little story... of a girl and a boy. They were in love, very much in love. He was kind... she was sweet, but selfish. But he loved her. They became engaged, and everything was lovely. One day he told her that they would have to live with his mother for a short time... That was the end. She broke the engagement."

A log fell apart and showered sparks on the tile hearth. "He grew bitter, for he had cared very much. After she had sent him away she repented, but it was too late. His love was dead. Both lives were ruined. And six months later his mother died..."

A little break in the even voice and the room was quiet. Mary sobbed in a jerky fashion. To think that this tragedy had happened to plain, easy-going Ellen.

(Society Continued)

The annual Christmas party and exchange of the "Friendly Dozen" was held at the home of Mrs. A. G. Trendell Wednesday afternoon. The room was attractively decorated with greenery and trimmings apropos to Christmas. A social time was enjoyed, followed by delicious refreshments. Members present were: Mesdames Sam Arnold, Fred Wheaton, H. W. Kelley, Aaron Wilson, Harry Wise, Louis Fugelson, L. C. Kelley, Clyde Minard, two guests, Mrs. M. S. Couly and Mrs. Hobart Schaar.

A group of the younger ladies met at the home of Miss Betty Sproul Tuesday evening. They played "Hollywood Poker" and at a late hour were served delicious refreshments. Present were: Eileen Kendall, Carolyn Perrott, Jean Nye, Maxine Knight and the hostess.

The American Legion Auxiliary met in the Legion Hall Monday evening for its regular monthly meeting. Mrs. Frank Schram, second vice president, presided in the absence of Mrs. Rosella Cline, the president. Plans were discussed for the district conference which will be held in Coquille in February. The members planned to send Christmas gifts to the children of the Legionnaires in the Roseburg hospital. There are now 42 members enrolled in the Auxiliary. At the meeting in January, there will be a six-thirty o'clock pot luck dinner.

The Episcopal Guild ladies met in the Parish House Wednesday afternoon for their regular meeting. Following Bible study, a social time with sewing and chatting was enjoyed. Light refreshments were served to the following: Mesdames Geo. Laird, Lloyd Rosa, C. J. Fuhrman, A. J. Sherwood, R. B. Smith, Ed Lorenz, L. H. Hazard, Hal Pierce, E. M. Bringer, W. H. Mansell, Ida Owen, Bert Folsom, Jas. Watson, J. S. Barton, Mrs. R. H. Lemon and Mrs. F. H. Freeman, of Myrtle Point, and Rev. G. R. Turney.

A large crowd sat down to the six-thirty o'clock pot luck dinner Wednesday evening in the banquet hall of the I. O. O. F. The dinner was given by the members of Mamie Rebekah lodge. After the regular lodge meeting which followed the dinner, a Christmas exchange was held in the lodge hall with Santa bestowing the gifts. Mrs. Ula Leach was presented with a gift from the lodge as a going-away present. She is to make her home in Los Angeles, California.

The officers of Mamie Rebekah Lodge and Coquille Lodge, No. 53, are having a dinner in the lodge banquet hall Wednesday evening, Dec. 21, and the Past Noble Grands will meet at the home of Mrs. Jennie Price Friday evening, Jan. 6.

Job's Daughters Bethel, No. 15, will observe "Go to Church Sunday," Dec. 18, at St. James Episcopal Church. Two of the Bethel members will take part in the song service. Wednesday evening, Dec. 28, the Bethel will hold its semi-annual installation, followed by a formal dance.

Mrs. Chas. Stauff To Visit In The East

Mrs. Chas. Stauff, of this city, left last Sunday on a six weeks' eastern trip. Most of the time will be spent with her daughter, Miss Margaret, who is a teacher, under civil service, in the Washington, D. C., schools. This is her third year in those schools. When she went east several years ago it was to take a position with the treasury department, with the idea of taking the examination for the school work as soon as opportunity offered. When she did she was the only one from all over the United States who successfully passed the tests.

WARRANT REDEMPTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that warrants up to and including No. 12,119, issued by Coquille School District, No. 8, will be paid upon presentation to the district clerk, on and after Friday, December 18, 1938. Interest on said warrants ceases on that date.

Keith Leslie, Clerk
School District No. 8, Coquille,
Coos County, Oregon. 4813

Fredric March, Virginia Bruce Star in Merry New Film
The merry-romantic adventures of a madcap heiress who runs out on her fortune and into a roving reporter who's out to get her story but comes back with her heart, are gaily depicted in Hal Roach's "There Goes My Heart," in which Fredric March and Virginia Bruce romp into the Roxy Theatre for a three-day stay on Sunday.

A great cast, headed by the new streamlined Patsy Kelly, Alan Mowbray, Nancy Carroll, Eugene Pallette and Etienne Girardot, supports the stars in this comedy romance of a girl who threw away a million dollars, deserted her yacht for a bargain basement, and found that you can have a barrel of fun eating hamburgers, riding subways—and falling in love—with a guy to whom you'd always been just a headline—and a headache.

Patsy Kelly and Alan Mowbray strike a bizarre romantic note as an electric vibrator demonstrator and her subway motorman sweetheart, who works at night and spends his days studying chiropractic. "There Goes My Heart" is Roach's first film under his new agreement to release through United Artists. The screen play was prepared by Eddie Moran and Jack Jevne from an original story by Ed Sullivan. Norman Z. McLeod directed.

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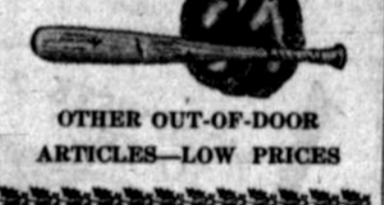
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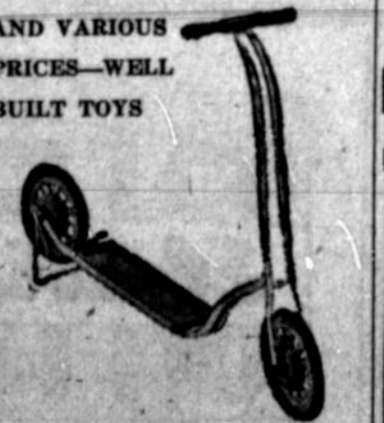
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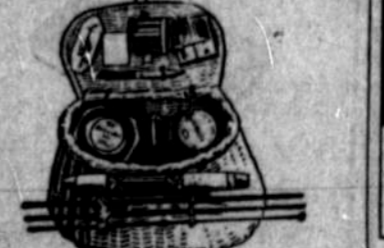


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