

RIALTO
Brownsville Saturday
Gloria Swanson
in
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new relation to his neighbors. But, true to his belief in honest, thorough work like a general preparing for battle, he examined his field of operations. His manner of doing this seemed to prove to Colonel Woodruff, who watched it with keen interest as something new in the world, that Jim Irwin was possibly a Brown Mouse. But the colonel knew only a part of Jim's performances. He saw Jim clothed in slickers, walking through rainstorms to the houses in the Woodruff district, as greedy for every moment of rain as a haymaker for shine; and he knew that Jim made a great many evening calls.

But he did not know that Jim was making what our sociologists call a survey. For that matter, neither did Jim; for books on sociology cost more than 25 cents a volume, and Jim had never seen one. However, it was a survey. To be sure, he had long known everybody in the district, save the Simmses—and he was now a friend of all that exotic race; but there is knowing and knowing. He now had note-books full of facts about people and their farms. He knew how many acres each family possessed, and what sort of farming each husband was doing—live stock, grain or mixed. He knew about the mortgages, and the debts. He knew whether the family atmosphere was happy and contented, or the reverse. He knew which boys and girls were wayward and insubordinate. He made a record of the advancement in their studies of all the children, and what they liked to read. He knew their favorite amusements. He talked with their mothers and sisters—not about the school, to any extent, but on the weather, the horses, the automobiles, the silo-filling machinery and the profits of farming.

Really, though Jennie Woodruff did not see how such doings related to school work, Jim Irwin's school was running full blast in the homes of the district and the minds of many pupils, weeks and weeks before that day when he called them to order on the Monday specified in his contract as the first day of school.

Con Bonner, who came to see the opening, voiced the sentiments of the older people when he condemned the school as disorderly. To be sure, there were more pupils enrolled than had ever entered on a first day in the whole history of the school, and it was hard to accommodate them all. But the director's criticism was leveled against the free-and-easy air of the children. Most of them had brought seed corn and a good-sized corn show was on view. There was much argument as to the merits of the various entries. Instead of a language lesson from the text-book, Jim had given them an exercise based on an examination of the ears of corn.

The number exercises of the little chaps had been worked out with ears and kernels of corn. One class in arithmetic calculated the percentage of inferior kernels at tip and butt to the full-sized grains in the middle of the ear. All the time, Jim Irwin, awkward and uncouth, clad in his none-too-good Sunday suit and trying to hide behind his Lincolnian smile the fact that he was pretty badly frightened and much embarrassed, passed among them, getting them enrolled, setting them to work, wasting much time and laboring like a heavy-laden barge in a sea-way.

"That feller'll never do," said Bonner to Bronson next day. "Looks like a tramp in the schoolroom." "Wearin' his best, I guess," said Bronson. "Half the kids call him 'Jim,'" said Bonner. "That's all right with me," replied Bronson. "The room was as noisy as a caucus," was Bronner's next indictment, "and the sure was all over corn like a hog-pig."

"Oh! I don't suppose he can get away with it," assented Bronson disgustedly, "but that boy of mine is as tickled as a colt with the whole thing. Says he's goin' regular this winter." "That's because Jim don't keep no order," said Bonner. "He lets Newt do as he pleases."

"First time he's ever pleased to do anything but deviltry," protested Bronson. "Oh, I suppose Jim'll fall down, and we'll have to fire him—but I wish we could get a good teacher that would git hold of Newt the way he seems to!"

CHAPTER V
The Promotion of Jennie.
If Jennie Woodruff was the cause of Jim Irwin's sudden irruption into the educational field by her scoring

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"That Feller'll Never Do."

"Humph!" at the idea of a farm-hand's ever being able to marry, she also gave him the opportunity to knock down the driver of the big motorcar, and perceptibly elevate himself in the opinion of the neighborhood, while filling his own heart with something like shame.

The fat man who had said "Cut it out" to his driver, was Mr. Charles Dilly, a business man in the village at the extreme opposite corner of the county. Mr. Dilly was a candidate for county treasurer, and wished to be nominated at the approaching county convention. In his part of the county lived the county superintendent—a candidate for re-nomination. He was just a plain garden or field county superintendent of schools, no better and no worse than the general political run of them, but he had local pride enlisted in his cause, and was a good politician.

Mr. Dilly was in the Woodruff district to build a backfire against this confederation of the county superintendent. He expected to use Jennie Woodruff to light it withal. That is, while denying that he wished to make any deal or trade—every candidate in every convention always says that—he wished to say to Miss Woodruff and her father, that if Miss Woodruff would permit her name to be used for the office of county superintendent of schools, a goodly group of delegates could be selected in the other corner of the county who would be glad to reciprocate any favors Mr. Charles J. Dilly might receive in the way of votes for county treasurer with ballots for Miss Jennie Woodruff for superintendent of schools.

Mr. Dilly never inquired as to Miss Woodruff's abilities as an educator. That would have been eccentric. Miss Woodruff never asked herself if she knew anything about rural education which especially fitted her for the task; for was she not a popular and successful teacher—and was not that enough? So are the officials chosen who supervise and control the education of the farm children of America.

When Jim Irwin started home from putting out his team the day after his first call on the Simms family, Jennie was waiting at the gate to be congratulated on her nomination.

"I hope you're elected," Jim said, holding the hand she had extended; "but there's no doubt of that."

"I never heard of a good county superintendent," said Jim. "Never heard of one—why, Jim Irwin!"

"I don't believe there is any such thing," persisted Jim, "and if you do no more than you say, you'll be off the same piece as the rest. Your system won't give us any better schools than we have—of the old sort—and we need a new kind."

"Oh, Jim, Jim! Dreaming as of yore! Why can't you be practical! What do you mean by a new kind of rural school?"

"It would be correlated with rural life. It would get education out of the things the farmers and farmers' wives are interested in as a part of their lives."

Jennie looked serious, after smothering a laugh. "Jim," said she, "you're going to have a hard enough time to succeed in the Woodruff school, if you confine yourself to methods that have been tested, and found good."

"But the old methods," urged Jim, "have been tested and found bad. Shall I keep to them?"

"They have made the American people what they are," said Jennie. "Don't be unpatriotic, Jim."

"They have educated our farm children for the cities," said Jim. "This county is losing population—and it's the best county in the world."

"Pessimism never wins," said Jennie.

Shedd Snapshots

By Anna Pennell
Mr. and Mrs. Charley Carlou and two sons drove to Portland Wednesday.

Mrs. Tom Hutchien of Corvallis is attending Mrs. Emma Gregory.

Stewart Arnold and wife of Marshfield came to Shedd Wednesday to visit Stewart's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Arnold.

Dale La Marr and Miss Merle Pugh were among those from Shedd who attended the big game Saturday on Eugene.

Mrs. Emma Gregory has been quite ill but is reported somewhat better. Mrs. Effie Brock is cooking for the boarders.

Miss Helen Ritchie went to Portland Tuesday to visit friends.

Mrs. Henry Freerkson, Mrs. Agnes Clark and Mrs. Lyman Coates spent Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Frank Shumate.

The revival meetings after a two weeks' sessions ended Sunday night.

Lyman Pennell and son, Leland, drove to Portland last week.

Ivan Dakin, who has been working near Junction City, stopped in Shedd, one night last week on his way to Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Coon gave a party Sunday for all their friends, the occasion being their wedding anniversary.

(Too late last week)
Mrs. Dal. Duncan returned Friday from Hermiston, where she had been visiting her son.

Eddie McElvain left Thursday for Portland to make his home.

C. L. Pennell of Pendleton visited his brother in Shedd a few days before going to work in Seilo.

Work is progressing rapidly in the remodeling of the M. E. church.

Revival meetings are being held at the U. P. church.

Clyde and James Crawford returned last week from Canada, where they have been working for some time.

Guy Porter of Albany has been helping work on the M. E. church.

Mr. and Mrs. Richerson left Thursday for Portland. Mr. Richerson has been connected with the A. D. Kern company.

Alford Arrows

(Enterprise Correspondence)

Mrs. W. A. Springer of Corvallis visited her sister, Mrs. E. A. Starnes Thursday.

D. I. Isom went to Eugene Saturday.

Mrs. A. E. Whitbeck and Mrs. J. F. Isom called on Mrs. George Workinger one afternoon last week.

C. A. Troutman and wife of Albany visited Mrs. Troutman's sister, Mrs. D. I. Isom Wednesday of last week.

Lee Ingram and family visited Mrs. Ingram's sisters, Mrs. Hawk and Mrs. Clover at Springfield Sunday.

Mrs. C. E. Mercer, who is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Isom, spent last week in Florence visiting her husband who has almost completed his work of making a road at that place.

J. N. Burnett and B. E. Cogswell took a load of dressed geese and turkeys to Portland the first of the week.

Mrs. William Curtis of Lebanon visited her son, Chester Curtis, and family one day last week.

Lon Chamlee, pastor of the Halsey Christian church, and his family took Sunday dinner at the J. F. Isom home.

L. H. Armstrong and family were Sunday visitors at the E. D. Isom home.

Chester Curtis and family spent Sunday evening at the home of Mrs. Curtis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tandy, near Harrisburg.

BY-PLAY

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Pine Grove Patters

(Enterprise Correspondence)

Fred Sylvester went to Portland Friday to visit his mother, who is quite poorly, and attend the funeral of his nephew, who was killed in an airplane accident in Texas.

Mrs. O. Martin is seriously ill in a Eugene hospital.

R. K. Stewart visited his son and family at Mabel and relatives in Eugene last week.

Mrs. M. Settle and baby are visiting at the R. K. Stewart home before joining Mr. Settle at their new home in Marshfield.

The pageant given by the Oakville ladies was well attended and much enjoyed.

Bert Minkley and Mr. Albertson were Salem visitors Friday.

Prof. William Allingham of Portland was up inspecting his farm property which he inherited from his uncle the late William Shepherd.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Haynes spent Sunday with W. E. Hoyer and family of Harrisburg and enjoyed a birthday dinner given in honor of W. E. Hoyer, Delta Haynes, Mrs. Myrtle McManus and Miss Virginia Smith. There were fourteen present.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and baby, and Mrs. Clevering and son of Albany visited at the Albertson home Sunday.

Clyde Johnson preached at the Pine Grove church Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Neff are enjoying a visit from Mr. Neff's father from Kansas.

Floyd Nichols was a Corvallis visitor Saturday.

L. E. Eagy spent Thursday in Corvallis.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant McNeil were Albany visitors Saturday.



"Good Night," said Jennie Curtly.

may have suggested, but a well-to-do farmer, whose wife did her own work much of the time, not because the colonel could not afford to hire "help," but for the reason that "hired girls" were hard to get.

The colonel, having seen the glory of the coming of the Lord in the triumph of his side in the great war, was inclined to think that all reform had ceased, and was a political stand-patter—a very honest and sincere one. Moreover, he was influential enough so that when Mr. Cummins or Mr. Dolliver came into the county on political errands, Colonel Woodruff had always been called into conference. He was of the old New England type, believed very much in heredity, very much in the theory that whatever is right, in so far as it has secured money or power.

A very respectable, honest, American Tory was the colonel, fond of his political sway, and rather soured by the fact that it was passing from him. He had now broken with Cummins and Dolliver as he had done years ago with Weaver and later with Larrabee—and this breach was very important to him, whether they were greatly concerned about it or not.

Such being her family history, Jennie was something of a politician herself. She was in no way surprised when approached by party managers on the subject of accepting the nomination for county superintendent of schools. Colonel Woodruff could deliver some delegates to his daughter, though he rather shied at the proposal at first, but on thinking it over, warmed somewhat to the notion of having a Woodruff on the county pay roll once more.

(To be continued)

IT'S THE UPKEEP
"What is that edifice?"
"Bankruptcy court."
"I had heard so, but could hardly believe it."
"What astonishes you?"
"The number of people that pull up there in automobiles."—Louisville Courier-Journal.