

PRUDENCE

of the PARSONAGE

By ETHEL HUESTON

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she thrust upon him a box of candy and a gaudy-covered magazine. "Your suitcase," he explained patiently. "Oh!" she gasped. "Run, father run! I left it on the train!" Father did run, but Prudence, feet-footed, outdistanced him and clambered on board, panting. When she rejoined her father her face was flushed. "Oh, father," she said quite snappily, "isn't that just like me?" "Yes, very like," he agreed, and he smiled. "And so this is Mount Mark! Isn't it a funny name, father? Why do they call it Mount Mark?" "I don't know. I hadn't thought to inquire. We turn here, Prudence. This is Main street. The city part of the town—the business part—is to the south."

CHAPTER I.

Introducing Her.

None—but the residents consider Mount Mark, Iowa, much of a town, and the very most patriotic of them all has no word of praise for the ugly little red C. B. & Q. railway station. Mount Mark is anything but proud of the little station. At the same time it certainly does owe the railroad and the state a debt of gratitude for its presence there. It is the favorite social rendezvous for the community! The arrival of a passenger train in Mount Mark is an event—something in the nature of a C. B. & Q. "at home," and is always attended by a large and enthusiastic gathering of "our best people." All that is lacking are the proverbial "light refreshments!"

So it happened that one sultry morning, late in the month of August, there was the usual flutter of excitement and confusion on the platform and in the waiting room of the station. The habits were there in force. Conspicuous among them were four gayly dressed young men, smoking cigarettes and gazing with lack-luster eyes upon the animated scene, which evidently bored them.

The Daily News reporter, in a well-tanned, light gray suit and tan shoes, and with eyeglasses scientifically balanced on his aquiline nose, was making pointed inquiries into the private plans of the travelers. The young woman going to Burlington to spend the week-end was surrounded with about fifteen other young women who had come to "see her off." Mount Mark is a very respectable town, be it understood, and girls do not go to the station without an excuse!

A man in a black business suit stood alone on the platform, his hands in his pockets, his eyes wandering from one to another of the strange faces about him. His plain white rags made him proclaimed his calling.

"It's the new Methodist minister," volunteered the baggage master, crossing the platform. "I know him. He's not a bad sort."

"They say he's got five kids, and most of 'em girls," responded the Adams express man. "I want to be on hand when they get here, to pick out a girl."

"Yah!" mocked the telegraph operator, bobbing his head through the window "you need to. They tell me every girl in Mount Mark has turned you down already."

But the Methodist minister, gazing away down the track, where a thin curl of smoke announced the coming of No. 9 and Prudence—heard nothing of this conversation. He was not a handsome man. His hair was gray at the temples, his face was earnest, only saved from severity by the little clusters of blue at his eyes and mouth which proclaimed that he laughed often and with relish.

"Train going east!"

The minister stood back from the crowd, but when the train came pounding in a brightness leaped into his

That's why I couldn't resist saying my prayers—I was so happy I couldn't hold in."

As they walked slowly toward the house, Mrs. Adams looked at this parsonage girl in frank curiosity and some dismay, which she strongly endeavored to conceal from the bright-eyed Prudence. The Ladies had said it would be so nice to have a grown girl in the parsonage! Prudence was nineteen from all accounts, but she looked like a child, and—well, it was not exactly grown-up to give thanks for a barn, to say the very least! Yet this girl had full charge of four younger children, and was further burdened with the entire care of a minister-father! Well, well! Mrs. Adams sighed a little.

"You are tired," said Prudence sympathetically. "It's so hot walking, isn't it? Let's sit on the porch until you are nicely rested."

"This is a fine chance for us to get acquainted," said the good woman with eagerness.

Now, if the truth must be told, there had been some ill-feeling in the Ladies' Aid society concerning the reception of Prudence. After the session of conference, when Rev. Mr. Starr was as-

signed to Mount Mark, the Ladies of the church had felt great interest in the man and his family. They inquired on every hand, and learned several interesting items. The mother had been taken from the family five years before, after a long illness, and Prudence, the eldest daughter, had taken charge of the household. There were five children. So much was known, and being women, they looked forward with eager curiosity to the coming of Prudence, the young mistress of the parsonage.

Mr. Starr had arrived at Mount Mark a week ahead of his family. Prudence and the other children had spent the week visiting at the home of their aunt, and Prudence had come on a day in advance of the others to "wind everything up," as she had expressed it.

Do you think that impulsive, lovable Prudence will make a hit with the saintly (but gossipy) members of the Ladies' Aid society?

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MAN'S WAR ON WILD THINGS

Trifles Seemingly of Small Significance Have Power to Cause Much Irritation.

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Economical Combination.

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RULES FOR ROASTING PORK

Prepared in This Way, the Meat Will Be Found Both Appetizing and Digestible.

After carefully wiping the meat with a wet towel, lay it on a rack in the dripping pan and place it in a very hot oven, where it will quickly sear over on all sides. Then reduce the heat of the oven and pour into the pan with the fat, which has come from the roast, a cupful of hot water.

Now cut in small pieces two large tart apples and put these into the pan where, cooking, they will give up their acid.

Baste the meat very often with this liquid, adding water when necessary, letting the pork cook slowly and thoroughly. Season with salt and pepper when half done.

A little flour may be dredged over the roast at intervals and a few sage leaves powdered may be sprinkled over it. Sage and pepper sear easily and must be frequently basted.

Apple sauce and horseradish may accompany the roast pork as usual. When the roast is done take it up and pour off all the drippings except two large tablespoonfuls, being careful to retain the brown substance at the bottom.

Add two tablespoonfuls of flour, letting this cook for a minute with the dripping. Add a pint of cold water, stirring well. Add a slice of onion, letting it cook a few minutes to extract the juice, then remove the onion. Strain gravy. This gravy is free from grease and has a good flavor.

EGGS WITH ANCHOVY SAUCE

Method of Serving Is Something of a Novelty—Makes Delicious Luncheon Dish.

At most delicatessen shops or large grocery stores may be bought tiny little cans of anchovy paste. These sell as a rule, for 10 cents apiece.

To make the sauce, melt one round tablespoonful of butter and one tablespoonful of flour, heated high. When thoroughly blended, add one cupful of milk and the contents of the tiny can of anchovy paste.

When the sauce has boiled up, remove it from the fire, stir until very smooth and pour it over hard-boiled eggs that have been shelled, cut in half and laid face down on the plate on which they are to be served. Pour the sauce over the eggs evenly, sprinkle with a little finely-chopped parsley or celery and dust with paprika.

For luncheon, as an entree, it should be served hot and then the sauce should be poured in an individual casserole or, should this not be handy, in a baking dish. Fresh eggs, carefully opened, are dropped in this hot sauce and a little cheese grated over the top, and paprika, and the whole put in a very hot oven long enough to "set" the egg. This may be served as a course by itself with thin biscuits.

Pilaff of Rabbit.

Having cut the rabbit in pieces, put it in a saucepan in which you have heated two or three ounces of butter or lard. When the meat is slightly browned, season with salt and pepper and add a medium-sized onion chopped in. Allow it to cook ten minutes, and add six tablespoonfuls of good soup. (Rice used in soups is par-boiled in water for ten minutes, and after water is drained off clear consommé is added.) Moisten with about one and a half pints of boiling water and reduce by boiling. Cover pan and finish cooking in oven or on a slow fire 20 minutes.

Banana Cake.

Make one-egg cake, or generally make a sponge cake and bake in round tins, two layers; slice bananas on cake and cover with whipped cream; simply lay another layer of cake on first and cover again with bananas and cream.

Whipped Cream—Take one cupful sweet cream, add the white of an egg to give it body, small pinch of salt and whip all together until thick; sweeten to taste and flavor with vanilla.

Keep Oven Scrupulously Clean.

An oven that is in constant use should be kept scrupulously clean if you want to get the best results from it. The shelves should occasionally be scrubbed with strong soda water, and, in addition, they should be painted with quicklime two or three times a year. An oven treated in this way never becomes coated with grease, and there is no unpleasant smell when it is being used.

Broiled Swordfish With Sauce.

Wash and wipe dry and season with salt and pepper slices of swordfish or halibut. Broil ten or twelve minutes (cover a charcoal fire if possible). Serve with a horseradish sauce. Cream one-third cupful of butter, add two rounding tablespoonfuls grated horseradish, one teaspoonful made mustard, one saltspoonful of salt and two tablespoonfuls of hot vinegar.

Tiny Chicken Pies.

To make individual chicken pies (and incidentally to use up bits of leftover chicken) line gem pans with a rich pastry, leaving crust enough to fold over a tablespoonful of well-seasoned chicken hash.

Bake in a quick oven and serve with currant or cranberry jelly and French fried potatoes.

Ginger Loaf.

One cupful each molasses, sugar, butter and sour milk, one teaspoonful each soda, ginger and cinnamon. Beaten yolks two eggs, four cupfuls flour. Last add well-beaten whites of the eggs. Use raisins or currants chopped or whole. Make one large loaf or two small.

Mock Lobster Salad.

Mix two cupfuls flaked boiled haddock with two teaspoonfuls finely-chopped pimento, season with salt, pepper and paprika, add two cupfuls finely-chopped celery and two spoonfuls mayonnaise dressing. Stir lightly, pile on crisp lettuce leaves and cover with a good dressing.

UNCLE SAM ON WHEELS

Takes Traveling Shows Throughout the United States.

Government is Fitting Up New Railroad Car Every Year to Carry Benefits of Experts' Work to the People.

Uncle Sam believes that while a rolling stone may gather no moss, a rolling demonstration produces great results in the way of increased knowledge, saved lives and righted wrongs. And he backs up this belief by the purchase every year of a railroad car, fitted up to carry his discoveries to every corner of the United States.

Some six or seven cars he owns now and an order has just been placed for another.

Education on wheels seems to attract the interest and the plaudits of the multitudes. The traveling show has never needed to make a strong outside bid for favor; it carries its success with it; people welcome it inevitably. Uncle Sam remembered this.

Also he remembered that he has a tremendous family of nieces and nephews to reach. Why not combine their inherent curiosity about a show from "furrin parts" with their need for enlightenment? The problem was simple—just a matter of inoculating a little seriousness into the show or putting some "sure enough" tonic into the mixture beneath the sugar coating and inoculating a little novelty into the demonstrations.

Hence, the "federal special," which were they all coupled together in one train, would be made up of a car each from food research laboratory, the bureau of animal industry (both of the department of agriculture); the bureau of mines, of standards and of fisheries, with another, already appropriated for and soon to be added, from the bureau of chemistry.

The car from the food research laboratory demonstrates methods for reducing the appalling \$50,000,000 yearly egg waste.

The wool-exhibit car of the bureau of animal industry shows ranchmen how to prepare their wool for market so as to increase their profits.

The fish commission car transports fishes from the Pacific, from the Atlantic and from the great lakes to stock the individual and public plants of those who are following the new pursuit, "fish raising."

The bureau of standards' car is designed to go about the country testing track scales on railways and weighing equipment of grain elevators and such establishments where commodities, destined for the general public, are weighed in bulk, to see if the measures conform to standard.

The bureau of mines car is an ultra-modern emergency kit on wheels which is rushed from its siding by a swift locomotive and hastened to the scene of every mine disaster for rescue work.

The newest car, which really is not yet a car, but only an order for one, is to be a peripatetic laboratory which will operate in connection with the pure food act. On the general lines of a Pullman car, it will be designed as a complete chemical and bacteriological laboratory, where the qualities of food products may be definitely established as in any other laboratory.

Uncle Sam's Doctors

Urges More Fresh Air

Gluttony is common, according to a statement issued by the United States public health service, but it has a penalty despite the fact that it is much condoned. Fat inefficiency and the red nose are two of the results of gluttony, it is said.

You must spend more of your time in the open air, warns Uncle Sam's physicians and they suggest that you give the treatment dogs receive when they get fat and wheezy. The diet should be cut down and the out-of-door exercise increased. Dyspepsia, it is stated, is often cured by work in the open air.

Simple and moderate diet is urged for United States citizens as a means for attaining health.

TWINE IS MADE FROM PAPER

Experiments Made by Uncle Sam's Experts in Forest Products Laboratory Prove Success.

That wrapping twines which give thorough satisfaction can be made from paper has been demonstrated by experiments made by Uncle Sam's forest products laboratory at Madison, Wis. Several hundred packages, each containing a medium-sized book, were wrapped and fastened with the lightest weight paper twine and were mailed to various points throughout the United States. Reports show that practically every package was received in good order and that in no case was there any damage which could be charged as a fault of the twine.

In making twine the paper is cut into narrow strips which are then twisted tightly to form a cord. The strength of the twine depends upon the character of the paper used and the process of treatment. It is well adapted to a number of purposes, but the foresters say that as yet no satisfactory means has been found for protecting paper twine from the action of water, and it should not be used where it will be exposed to moisture.

Sugar Beet Industry Grows.

Preliminary returns received by Uncle Sam from practically all operating beet-sugar factories in the United States indicate a production of 913,800 short tons of sugar during the current campaign. The area harvested amounted to 680,000 acres, and the beets, 8,671,000 short tons. This is the largest acreage and tonnage of beets ever harvested in the United States, and the sugar production exceeds the highest preceding crop that of 1915, by more than 44,000 tons. During the past five years the United States has consumed about 1,000,000 tons of sugar annually.



"Run, Father, Run!"

eyes. A slender girl stood in the vestibule, waving wildly at him a small gloved hand. When the train stopped she leaped lightly from the steps.

"Father!" she cried excitedly, and, small and slight as she was, she elbowed her way swiftly through the gaping crowd. "Oh, father!" And she flung her arms about him joyously, unconscious of admiring eyes. Her father kissed her warmly. "Where is your baggage?" he asked, a hand held out to relieve her.

"Here!" And with a radiant smile



In the Barn of All Places.

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