PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD CLOSES FINE MEETING

Session Next Year Goes to Oregon State College—Albany College Report Gratifying.

(By J. W. Angell)

EUGENE, Ore., July 26.—(Special)—By speeding up a little the Presbyterian Synod of Oregon was able to close a day earlier than at first expected, and Wednesday saw the last of the delegates leaving for home, after what was felt by many to be the best meeting of the synod for years.

Next year it will be held in July at Corvallis, the synod voting to accept the invitation of the Oregon State college through President Kerr to meet there.

Both the university at Eugene and Albany college also extended invitations, but Corvallis was chosen as the synod had not met there for some years.

College Favored

Many felt that usually the meeting should be at Albany college, as that is the Presbyterian college in Oregon, and there may be an effort made next year to so arrange, as the college and the city of Albany would be very glad to have done.

The report on Monday of Albany college to the synod was very gratifying, showing the largest college enrollment and the largest graduating class in the history of the institution.

Build New Gym

The college is now letting the contract for a fine new gymnasium to cost $40,000 or more, and expects also to begin this year the construction of a new woman's building costing considerably more. The faculty is being constantly improved and the college rapidly advancing in every way.

Monday and Tuesday were "education days" at the synod, Tuesday being given over largely to consideration of the work of the synod, through its "Westminster Foundation" at Eugene and Corvallis, among the 1500 Presbyterian students attending the university and the state college.

Student Pastors Aid

This is done through the two student pastors, J. Maxwell Adams and Monroe G. Everett, employed by the synod and local churches. Both in Eugene and Corvallis the foundation (backed by business and professional men of Portland and the state of Oregon) has been able to provide fine homes for these pastors, which are constructed to serve also and principally as student centers. Here many social gatherings and meetings and study classes are held through the college year, reaching a large number of the students in a most enjoyable and helpful way.

Meteorological Report

Forecasts

Medford and vicinity: Tonight and Sunday fair; no change in temperature.

Oregon: Fog on coast and fair in interior tonight and Sunday; no change in temperature.

Local Data.	5 P. M. Yesterday	5 A. M. Today
Temperature (Degs.)	84	52
Highest (Last 12 hrs.)	86	84
Lowest (Last 12 hrs.)	54	52
Rel. humidity (Pct.)	18	69
Precipitation (Ins.)	.00	.00
State of weather	Clear	Clear

Lowest temperature this morning, 52 degrees.

Total precipitation since Sept. 1, 1929, 13.97 inches.

Temperatures a year ago today: Highest, 88; lokest, 47.

Sunset today, 7:36 p. m.
Sunrise Sunday, 4:59 a. m.
Sunset Sunday, 7:35 p. m.

Observations Taktn at 5 A. M. 120th Mtridian Time

CITY	High Temp. Past 24 Hrs.	Lowest Temp. Last Night	Weather
Baker City	78	....	....
Bismarck	98	64	Cloudy
Boise	....	54	Clear
Denver	84	62	Clear
Des Moines	94	82	Clear
Fresno	98	64	Clear
Helena	78	54	Cloudy
Los Angeles	78	60	Clear
Marshfield	68	48	Cloudy
Phoenix	104	82	Cloudy
Portland	72	50	Clear
Red Bluff	94	64	Clear
Roseburg	80	48	Clear
Salt Lake City	92	68	P. Cdy.
San Francisco	....	54	Cloudy
Santa Fe	74	56	Cloudy
Seattle	70	54	Cloudy
Spokane	86	54	Clear
Walla Walla	84	56	Clear
Winnipeg	....	66	Cloudy

W. J. HUTCHISON,
Meteorologist.

FIND NO TRACE TALENT GAS STATION BURGLAR

TALENT, Ore., July 26.—(Spl.)—No trace has been found of the burglar or burglars who entered the Bates service station in south Talent Sunday night and carried away several cartons of cigarettes and some candy.

Sylvio Cator, Haitian, world's champion broad jumper, intends to compete in the 129 Olympics.

News of the Churches

Catholic Church
S. Oakdale Ave. and 10th St.
Masses at 7 and 9 a. m.
Rev. F. W. Black, pastor.

St. Mark's Episcopal
Corner Oakdale and Fifth Sts.
Wm. B. Hamilton, rector.
Holy communion, 8 a. m.
Holy communion, 10 a. m.

Central Point Christian Church
Bible school at 11 a. m. Classes for all ages.
At 11 a. m. C. W. Kirkpatrick of Medford will preach the morning sermon. The subject will be "The New Commandment."
A cordial invitation is extended to all.

First Presbyterian Church
Claude B. Porter, pastor.
Morning worship lasts just an hour.
Lord's Supper will be served. R. E. Waldron will sing "Just As I Am," with C. B. McMath at the console. In the evening the Presbyterian church unites with other churches in the city for union services to be held this week at the Baptist church.

First Methodist.
Alexander G. Bennett, pastor.
Sunday morning worship, 11:00 o'clock, with sermon by the pastor, "Lavishness." Solo, by Mrs. J. R. Knight.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. General lesson, "The Meaning of Discipleship."
Evening service will be united congregations in the Baptist church.
All people are very welcome.

English Lutheran Church
Fourth at Oakdale Ave. "Where the way is made plain." H. C. Funk, Pt. D., N. D., pastor.
"The Man Under the Juniper Tree" will be the subject for discussion by the pastor at the hour of worship, 11 a. m.
Bible school begins at 10 a. m., with classes for all ages.
This church joins in the union services to be held at the Baptist church at 8 p. m. Dr. Eaton will deliver the sermon.

First Christian Church
Ninth and Oakdale. Carman E. Mell, minister. Office and pastor's study in the church, phone 1007.
"Test our welcome."
Morning worship and communion 10:55. Sermon subject, "Living the Words of Jesus." Special music and a happy fellowship.
Union evening service at 8:00 o'clock in the First Baptist church.
Bible school assembly at 9:45. Christian Endeavor at 7 o'clock.

International Bible Students
The International Bible Students' association broadcasting a Watch Tower program over KMED Sunday evening from 7:30 to 8 o'clock. The subject of the lecture to be given by T. W. Hill of Ashland is "Divine Foreknowledge; Proof That Jehovah Is God." Lewis Parker will play a piano solo.
The International Bible Students meet every Sunday morning at 10:30 and every Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. W. W. Bailey at 102 Mistletoe street. All who are interested in Watch Tower Bible study are welcome.

First Baptist Church
Central avenue at Fifth street. W. H. Eaton, Ph. D., minister. Phones: Office 1052, residence 704-H.
Sunday school at 9:45 sharp; Mrs. E. E. Wilson, superintendent. At 11 a. m. Dr. Eaton will speak on "A Matter of Personal Liberty." Special by the choir, "The Lord Is My Shepherd" (by Shawkes.)
First M. E., Presbyterian, Christian, Lutheran and Baptist churches in union services at First Baptist at 8 p. m. Dr. Eaton, the speaker, will use as his subject, "Questions—Large and Small." Choir will sing "How Manifold Thy Works" (by Wilson). Mrs. Don V. Piatt will sing a solo. A cordial welcome to all services. You will find a welcome.

Main Street Methodist Church, South
N. D. Wood, pastor.
Program for Sunday:
Sunday school at 9:45; Dr. Frank Roberts, superintendent. Our Sunday school is well organized with a group to suit every age. We have a "special story" feature for the whole school.
At 11 a. m. special mmusic by the choir. Sermon by Rev. J. B. Needham, presiding elder of the Portland district.
Epworth League at 7 p. m. Devotional. We extend an invitation to young people who are not attending elsewhere to come and join with our splendid young people in this hour of worship.
At 8 p. m.: Special music. Sermon by Rev. J. B. Needham. A hearty welcome awaits all who may wish to come and worship with us.

First Church of Christ, Scientist.
Authorized branch of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.
Services are held every Sunday at 11 o'clock, church edifice, 212 North Oakdale. Subject for Sunday, July 27: "Truth."
Sunday school at 9:45. Applicants under the age of twenty may be admitted.
Wednesday evening meetings, which include testimonies of Christian Science healings, at 8 o'clock.
The reading room, which is in the Medford Bldg., is open daily from 11 to 4, except Sundays and holidays. The Bible and all authorized Christian Science literature may be read, borrowed or purchased.
The public is cordially invited to attend the services and visit the reading room.

Oregon Weather
Fog on the coast. Fair weather in the interior tonight and Sunday. No change in temperature. Gentle to moderate north and northwest winds off shore.

On the Air

7:00 to 7:20 p.m.—Voice of Pan—NBC service to KGO, KHQ, KOMO, KGW, KTAR.
7:30 to 7:45 p.m.—Amos n' Andy—NBC service to KGO, KHQ, KOMO, KGW, KECA, KFSD.
7:45 to 8:00 p.m.—Sperry Hotcakes—NBC service to KGO, KHQ, KOMO, KGW, KECA.
8:00 to 8:30 p.m.—Nights in Spain—NBC service to KGO, KECA.
8:00 to 8:20 p.m.—Gillmore Circus—NBC service to KHQ, KOMO, KGW, KPO, KFI.
8:30 to 10:15 p.m.—Hollywood Bowl Symphony Concert—NBC service to KHQ, KOMO, KGW, KPO, KFI.
8:30 to 9:00 p.m.—Melody Memories — NBC service to KGO, KFSD.
9:00 to 9:30 p.m.—Rainbow Harmonies—NBC service to KGO, KECA, KFSD, KTAR, KOA.
9:30 to 10:00 p.m.—Golden Legends—NBC service to KGO, KFSD, KOA.
10:00 to 12:00 p.m.—Spotlight Review — NBC service to KGO, KFSD, KOMO, 10:15 to 11:15 p.m.; KECA, KOA, 10 to 11 p.m.

Radio Program KMED
(Mail Tribune - Virgin Station)

Saturday.
5 to 5:15—Popular recordings.
5:15 to 5:45—"Shirley Brothers on the Air."
5:45 to 6—News and market by Mail Tribune.
6 to 6:15—Fruit Dispatches by Myron Root.
6:15 to 6:45—Brunswick brevities.
6:45 to 7—Cecil and Sally presented by Standard Oil Co.
7 to 7:15—"Equi-Fractional Program" by Associated Oil Co.
7:15 to 7:30 — Popular recordings.
7:30 to 8—"A Radio Wave on Wheels."
8:00 to 9:00—Remote control broadcast from the Scherer Motor Co.

Sunday.
P. M.—
7 to 7:30—Pipe organ concert.
7:30 to 8—Watch Tower Program by International Bible Students' Assn.
8 to 9—Valley Radio church.

Monday.
A. M.—
7:55 to 8—Breakfast broadcast of news by Mail Tribune.
8 to 8:30—"Kybo Hour" by Economy Groceteria.
8:30 to 8:45—Mary Ambitious and Harry Industry.
8:45 to 9—Gold Seal Creamery.
9 to 9:30—John Cupp Furniture Co.
9:30 to 10—Westside Pharmacy.
10 to 10:30—American Laundry.
10:30 to 11—Medford Sheet Metal Works.
11 to 11:30 — XL Electric, Ashland.
11:30 to 12—Popular recordings.
12 to 12:30—Lewis Super-Service Station.
12:30 to 1—Sanderson Motor Co.
1 to 1:30—Brunswick Brevities.
1:30 to 2 — Snider's Dairy & Produce Co.
5 to 5:15—Popular recordings.
5:15 to 5:45—Scherer Motor Co.
5:45 to 6—News and Markets by Mail Tribune.
6 to 6:15—Fruit Dispatches by Myron Root.
6:15 to 6:45—"The Toggery."
6:45 to 7—Cecil and Sally presented by Standard Oil Co.
7 to 7:15—"Equi-fractionated Program," by Associated Oil Co.
7:15 to 7:30—Popular recordings.
7:30 to 8—C. Earl Bradfish, jeweller.
8 to 9—Mona Motor Oil Co.

MIDGET GOLFERS PLAY IN ASHLAND

In a return match of a home and home series between Ashland and Medford miniature golfers played at Ashland Friday night the honors were evenly divided. Bob Hammond, Sr., and A. Hagen won both 18-hole matches and Bob Hammond, Jr., and Irwin Bowman lost both rounds to their Ashland competitors.

First round results: Hammond, Sr. and Hagen defeated Farlow and Shull, 2 up, and Hammond, Jr., and Bowman lost to Bentley and Buyers by the same margin.

Second round results: Hammond, Sr. and Hagen beat R. Barkwill and Shull, 1 up, and Bentley and Buyers defeated Hammond, Jr., and Bowman, 8 up.

Medal scores in order of play were as follows: Hammond, Sr., 45-47; Hagen, 45-52; Farlow, 48; Shull, 49-51; Barkwill, 48; Hammond, Jr., 46-60; Bowman, 58-65; Bentley, 48-49; Buyers, 46-50.

RURAL AND SUBURBAN NEWS

TALENT

TALENT, Ore., July 26.—(Special)—Robert Bullen returned the first of the week from Vancouver, Wash., where he attended Citizens' military training camp. He received two medals at the camp, one for expert rifleman and one for machine gun firing. Mrs. Bullen returned with her son, having motored to Vancouver to be present to see the reviewing of the troops.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Nye in company with a niece, Mrs. T. L. Elliott, and two daughter of Denver motored to Crescent City Sunday where they joined relatives from different parts of the state in a family reunion. A picnic dinner was enjoyed on the beach.

Mrs. Richardson of this city was taken to Ashland Tuesday for an X-ray of the injury sustained at Rogue River recently when she was struck by an auto.

L. G. Gates of Grants Pass was a business caller in Talent Tuesday.

Henry Fluhrer of Medford was making business calls in Talent on July 21.

Allison Ward and son Ray, have moved to the Anderson farm that they may be nearer their stock and farm work. Mr. Ward has the farm leased at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Merrick left for their home near Los Angeles July 21, after a two weeks' visit with Mrs. Merricks' sister, Mrs. Wm. Breese.

Mrs. T. L. Elliott visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Nye Tuesday. Mrs. Elliott, who has been visiting relatives in Medford and Talent for the past two weeks, left for her home in Denver Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Simmons of Pumpkin Center, have recently added a lunch room to their place of business.

Mr. and Mrs. Haak of Eagle Point called on friends in Talent July 23.

Roy Estes and Marion Sowash spent Wednesday and Thursday fishing at Hiatt lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Derrick of Medford have taken a cabin at the Talent auto park for the present. Mr. Derrick is filling Mr. McMayon's place in the barber shop during Mr. McMayon's vacation.

Mrs. Lillian Scott returned from an extended visit with a niece at Merced, Calif.

R. H. Southwick was a business caller in this city July 22. Mr. Southwick is employed by the Talent school as seventh and eighth grade instructor and is attending the Ashland Normal at present.

JACKSONVILLE

JACKSONVILLE, Ore., July 26.—(Special)—Adral Chapter O. E. S. No. 3 celebrated their golden anniversary on the old court house lawn Wednesday evening. The lawn was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Jimmy Johnson, Warren Kirkpatrick, Grace and Frances Wakefield were Applegate visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. V. T. Wilson received the sad news Thursday of the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Lester Adams, who passed away in a Portland hospital.

Mrs. Cora Crump and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Crump of Little Applegate, were visitors in Jacksonville Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shaw and small daughter Betty Ann, Miss Dorothy Shaw of Medford, made a motor trip to Roseburg Sunday, accompanied by Grace and Frances Wakefield.

Mr. and Mrs. James Langhead and Mrs. F. E. Langhead went to Crater Lake, Bend and Roseburg where they will visit for a few days.

Mrs. Violet Bartlett has been appointed librarian at the public library here.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hanna and Leon Hanna of San Francisco, visited in Portland this week. Mrs. Hattie Neuber returned with them.

John Hueners Sr., is having a new modern milk house built on his ranch east of town.

James Langhead of Chicago, who is visiting relatives here, presented his sister with a new roadster.

Mr. and Mrs. James Laughhead from Chicago, are visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Laughhead, who live in south Jacksonville.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fick and daughter Virginia spent Sunday at Shady Cove, the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Riddle of Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. James Langhead and Mrs. Thomas Langhead left Wednesday morning for a trip to Portland. They will visit at different points along the route.

PROSPECT

PROSPECT, Ore., July 26.—(Spl.)—Mrs. Capitola Wunderlich and her daughter, Mrs. May Holt of Los Angeles, are house guests at the Frank Manning home. Mrs. Wunderlich is a sister of Mr. Manning. They motored from Los Angeles, arriving Sunday.

Tom Herriot, who has been a patient in St. Vincent's hospital, Portland arrived home Monday.

Prof. Larson, principle of the Prospect school, is running the Prospect garage this summer.

Daily vacation Bible school opened Wednesday morning with 14 children enrolled. The school is being held in the gymnasium from 9 to 11 each day. Mr. Hendrickson of Grants Pass, is in charge.

Mrs. Heston Grieve returned home the first of the week.

The Aiken mill is only running part time.

WILLIAMS CREEK

WILLIAMS CREEK, July 26.—(Special)—A special session of the Booster club was called after Sunday school July 20 and by mutual consent the club dissolved in favor of the fourth department of the Epworth League, which will take care of the work already planned and all future work in that line.

A very interesting and helpful devotional meeting of the Epworth League was held Sunday evening at the Methodist church. The topic was well handled by the leader, Earl Cougle.

A swimming party on the Apple enjoyed by members of the Epworth League and some of their gate Tuesday evening was greatly friends.

Clem Blodgette, Roscoe and Charles Lemmon and Billy Wilson are spending this week camping in the mountains.

Mrs. Grace Cowen and daughter Hazel, of Hilt, Calif., Mrs. Mary Topping and daughter Josephine, and June Bigelow of Grants Pass, called on Mrs. C. W. Roberts last week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. House and family were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dell Lemmon after Sunday school.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Fixley spent a few days this week at Klamath Falls with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Sutton.

Mrs. George McClain of Phoenix, and Mrs. Floyd Watkins and daughter Evelyn Jean of Medford spent Tuesday at the C. W. Roberts home.

Mrs. Bessie Jones of North Bend, and Mrs. Ed Herriot of Medford were week-end visitors at the home of Grandma John and Mrs. Stratton and Sunday they took grandma over to the home of Mrs. Allie Hamlet near Murphy where they were dinner guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Larimore spent a few days at Grants Pass this week while Mr. Larimore and their daughter Hazel, had their tonsils removed. They returned home Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Holzhauser of near Norris, Calif., visited last week with their son Bert Holzhauser and family of Williams Creek.

Mrs. George Sparlin and Mrs. Alfred Larimore spent Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Tom Wilkinson and daughters.

Mrs. Goldie Griffith of Wonder, Ore., was a visitor one day last week at the home of Grandma John and Mrs. Stratton.

Mrs. Constance of the Humdinger mine is spending this week with her daughter and family Mr. and Mrs. Lee Smith at Medford.

J. A. Varner and daughter Pauline of Williams drove to Portland Sunday. Mr. Varner returned but Pauline will remain for a month's visit.

Miss Melva Macy of Grants Pass spent a few days this week with her friend, Eunice Blodgette.

Mrs. Ed Walling of Provolt spent Wednesday with friends in Grants Pass.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Holzhauser and daughter Fay, drove over to Crescent City Sunday where they camped and fished for a few days.

Williams ladies club met Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Bill Lemmon. Next meeting will be with Mrs. Bert Bigelow at Grants Pass.

Rev. D. D. Randall, Union Sunday school missionary and son Edsel of Medford visited the Sunday schools at Williams and Provolt last Sunday. We are awaye glad to have Reverend Randall visit us.

A family picnic and reunion was greatly enjoyed last Sunday at the Lithia park at Ashland by Mr. and Mrs. George Kradel and Mr. and Mrs. Banks Newcomb of Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Champlain of Tacoma, Mrs. Elizabeth Picard and daughter Ruth, of Seattle and Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Whipple, Mr. and Mrs. William Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Eastlick, Mrs. Cassie Grigley, Mrs. Ben Barham, Mrs. Wallace Bruce, Mr. Orval Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Whipple, Miss Mabel Whipple, Wilbur Montgomery, Mrs. Rodestrum and Mr. Sells, all of southern California.

CENTRAL POINT

CENTRAL POINT, July 26.—(Spl.)—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hunt and Lola Grimm of Klamath Falls visited Wednesday at the home of Mrs. John Grimm.

Mrs. Gellett and family and Grandma Gellett of Canyon City visited at Grimm's Wednesday.

Mrs. Lee Caldwell returned on Thursday from Etna, Calif., where she visited her son and daughter.

Howard Mayfield returned Wednesday from California, where he has been on a business trip. Mr. Mayfield took his family to Fort Klamath Thursday for a few weeks.

Mrs. Frank DeFord and son, Ted, of Ashland visited Monday at the Theo. Glass home.

Mrs. Arnold Bohnert returned Monday to her home after a few days' illness in a Medford hospital.

Mr and Mrs. Morse Haley of Prospect attended Grange meeting Friday evening.

Home Economics club of the Grange met Wednesday afternoon at the Grange hall. The club is making great plans for the future.

Mrs. George Ross, who is visiting her sister at Santa Cruz is reported severely ill.

Miss Evadena Musty spent Tuesday and Wednesday with her sister, Mrs. Sterling Richmond of Medford.

Four-H Livestock club met at the home of A. H. Willet Monday evening. Mr. Willet, who understands poultry gave them some very helpful instructions on selecting poultry for exhibition. The club hopes to meet there again and inspect his fine poultry.

Miss Dorothy Inman who works in the Nip and Sip shop is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. Tracy of Tolo.

Miss Meta Nelson of Algonquin, Ill., and her friend Amada Landuht of Wakefield, Neb., are visitors at the Warren Patterson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Glass and daughter Thoda, visited their daughter, Mrs. Ellis Bundy of Medford Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Cora Hewitt and two sons of Fresno, Cal., are visiting her mother, Mrs. Belle Davis.

George K. Lowe of Ashland was in Central Point Saturday evening doing some shopping.

Carnation club met Wednesday with Mrs. Rose Hodson. The afternoon was spent in sewing. Dainty refreshments were served. Those present were Mesdames Alta Kelly, Donna Brenner, Lois Richardson and the hostess.

Walter Love, son of Mrs. Dolly Love, returned Thursday after a two-year stay in the east.

Mrs. Hermanson and daughters were in Medford Wednesday shopping.

Mrs. Alta Norcross of Petaluma, Calif., and Miss Gretchen Kramer of Salem, former teachers in Ashland are visiting friends here.

A few members of the Central Point chapter, Eastern Star, attended the exercises at Jacksonville, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Jacksonville chapter.

Ellis Gleason of Seattle is visiting his brother, Eldon Gleason.

Jeff Slagle of Talent, who formerly lived at the Kirtland farm, suffered a paralytic stroke on Monday, July 21. He is reported as much improved at present.

Howard Daugherty and Bob Thompson of Medford were visiting at the Ernest Scott home on Monday.

Mrs. Grace Dunlap and two daughters of Kerby, Ore., were visiting at the homes of Eldon Gleason and Ed Farra on Wednesday and Thursday.

Mrs. Guy Tex went to Prospect Thursday where she visited her sister, Mrs. James Grieve. Geraldine Tex, who has been spending her vacation at Prospect, returned with her mother Thursday evening.

HAVANA, July 26. — (AP) — Taxi cab rates here are believed to be among the lowest in the world. One can ride two miles for 20 cents and there is seldom a charge for waiting time.

FIND NO TRACE TALENT GAS STATION BURGLAR

TALENT, Ore., July 26.—(Spl.)—No trace has been found of the burglar or burglars who entered the Bates service station in south Talent Sunday night and carried away several cartons of cigarettes and some candy.

DAGGER
by Mary Dahlberg

SYNOPSIS: Dagger Marley, 16-year-old niece of a Texas rancher near the Mexican border, rescues Blaine Howard, an American ex-soldier of fortune, from a band of Mexican insurgents. It develops that Howard was once a famous polo player, as was Dick Welling, now crippled by loss of an arm, a ceremony on the ranch of Dagger's uncle, Jim Marley. Howard and Welling have heard of each other, but both seem to have some bitter memory of which they do not wish to speak. Howard lingers at the ranch and beats Dagger at polo, riding and even gambling, thereby winning her respect and admiration.

Chapter 4

TEXAS MOONLIGHT

"WAALL, I hear there was a big game last night," Jim Marley drawled at the breakfast table.

Dagger was unabashed.

"That's right, darling," she agreed. "I was taken into camp. But I came out with my roll, anyway."

"You pushed your luck too far," said Howard, but don't worry, you're a first class gambler."

"A hell of a recommendation that is," grumbled Jim Marley.

"I suspect Howard means she is a good sport," said Welling, "and mighty few women deserve to have that said of them."

"Nonsense," cried Dagger, throwing down her napkin. She led the way out to the porch, with her chin lifted.

Juanito, the oddjob boy, extended a yellow envelope to Howard.

He opened it.

"Bad news?" Dagger asked.

"No, just a line from—my wife."

It seemed to her that he choked somewhat on that last word.

"Oh! Does she want you to—come home?"

"Not especially. You see, Dagger, Emily's mother, — damn her! — decided we were suited to each other and she footed the pair of us."

"Well, if I ever married a man I'd do it with my eyes open, and *because I loved him!*" Dagger positively snorted, then suddenly became contrite. "I'm sorry. I recon it's none of my business."

"On the contrary, my dear," he replied, "I'd like to think my happiness was your business."

"Anyway, I don't blame you and I'll ick now for saying women aren't good sports. Some of us are, but you two met the wrong kind——"

"What happened to Welling?" he cut her off

"I don't know," she confessed. "I know he was unhappy when he came here, but that's all."

"He must have had a bad bump," Howard reflected. "Emily knew him, but she never talked of him."

Dagger peered quickly at his face, then looked away, her lips quivering.

"How long since you've seen your wife?"

"Must be close to a year. After I said goodbye to her, I decided to take what I call a pilgrimage."

"Yes?" she prompted. "Where?"

"Around the world. I went to see four men, the four friends whose thoughts mean most to me. I figured I'd take my doubts to them, get their reactions. Raoul de Senac—he was the first. He's Duc de Pontois, and he has Charlemagne's blood in his veins. Believes in the responsibility of the well-born. *And Sidi Marut*, a Protestant Mussulman, a merchant who is almost a saint. And Ghulam Buk, *who is abbot of a Buddhist monastery in Lahore*, and has conquered passion and hate. And *Chang Kai Sho, the greatest man* in China—who rose from banditry to govern a province."

"And what did they say?"

"Raoul I found in Paris on wound-leave. 'For what one believes, one fights,' he said. Sidi Marut was acting as intermediary between the German gun-runners and the desert-tribes. 'This is an illusion,' he said. 'We Mussulmen shall never cleanse our heresies by fighting the Christians' quarrels. Be sure of Allah's will, then kiss the sword of the spirit.' Ghulam Buk only smiled when I laid my troubles before him. 'It is an error, my friend,' he said. 'One who slays but slays himself. Wrath is sin. Chang was up north in China. 'What *can you win by fighting*?" he asked me. 'A province? A woman? Fortune? Power? Stay with me, *and you shall have all four.*'"

"But they all meant the same thing," Dagger exclaimed. "You *should do what you believe in.*"

"Exactly," assented Howard. "I came to believe that I should join the Allies. I don't see any other thing to do."

The sombreness in his voice oppressed her.

"But at least you're doing things, risking a great stake for—for—a great cause!"

"I have no stake worth mentioning," he countered.

"I'd call your life the greatest stake you possessed," she said softly, and her hand timidly settled on his arm. Then her mood changed.

"Shall we gallop a while? I'd love to go forever with the wind blowing around me, faster—and—*faster*——"

The pleasure of Dagger's companionship helped influence Howard *to stretch his stay at Casa Blanca* into three weeks. The warmth of her admiration heartened him, and *her eagerness to learn was a stimulant* to his own jaded senses. He accepted her homage with good-natured condescension. But he failed to perceive that before his eyes was happening one of the oldest of human miracles, the chrysalis of the child blossoming into the flower of womanhood.

So Dagger walked her path unwarned, unguarded, blithely happy *in the experience. The sharp point* of desire was still embedded in the tender matrix of the blossom that *crept so slowly, so gradually, from* the fading chrysalis. But emerge it must. And, of course, the moment *of emergence came with tragical* suddenness to both of them.

The weather had turned very hot, so they took their rides in the cool of the evening, returning by starlight. This evening they had ridden to the dwindling channel of the Rio Grande, and quite by chance they came to the scene of their first meeting.

"I remember I was awfully dirty," said Howard. "*Hungry, too.*"

"I was mad," said Dagger.

"And I was sure they were going to get me," he continued; "*but I* didn't care."

"And I was sure they weren't going to," she retorted. "*What a* dreadful thing to say!"

"More dreadful to feel," he answered gruffly.

"But you don't feel that way, now?"

"No—not now."

Dagger's mount, Desmond, always skittish, started at a mesquite bush that rattled in the breeze. He lurched up against Howard's horse, and the New Yorker instinctively reached out an arm to steady Dagger. As instinctively, she nestled *into the crook of his elbow.*

Instinctively, she nestled into the crook of his elbow.

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Will Howard yield to the temptation to accept the blind love of this child of the plains? Read tomorrow's chapter.

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