

EVE'S ORCHARD

By MARGARET WIDDEMER

Chapter 44 Pure Happiness

GEORGE hurried straight to her with a face like a happy boy's and his hands outstretched. It wasn't true—it mustn't, couldn't be true. But it was. His arms were around her neck and she was kissing him. "Listen, dear love. Don't speak. Don't try to get away. It's all right. All right always."

She tried to move from him, weakly. He pressed her head against his shoulder, sitting by her on the low bench.

"Wait—wait till I can be quiet enough to tell you," he said a little unsteadily. "It wasn't any use trying to lie to Ellen. She said she knew it was true. She said—Eve, I hate to tell you this, but she said I must—she'd known I didn't love her. But she thought I would—not knowing I loved you. She said—she said, when you were engaged to Carter she told you she cared and I didn't."

"I know. I've been her confidante from the first. That's why I couldn't hurt her—"

"Eve said at random. "She said—she couldn't be so wicked as to hold what belonged to someone else. Eve, in heaven's name what made you refuse me the other night, the night of the picnic?" he ended harshly.

"Because I was stupid. Because I didn't know you were asking me, if you will believe it, George. It was when you went away I realized how much I loved you. George, I was going to tell you I did love you if you still wanted me when you came back from Sharon. I had found it out."

Laughter After Tears

HE said abruptly, as if giving her something in return for what she had given him. "I was going to marry her because I was desperate. I'd lost my last hope of you."

"I knew. But oh, George, my poor Ellen!"

"She said," he told her huskily, "to tell you she had her work and she had her prayers, and it wasn't the end of the road."

"Oh, she is so wonderful!"

Eve broke down, crying for brave, steadfast Ellen as she had never cried for herself.

"That's enough," George said. "Think about me now, Eve. Do you know I'm not sure of you yet? I've wanted you so long, and it's been hard. Make me sure, my Eve."

She leaned to him, pulling him close, kissing him. "Be sure."

After a little she laughed—how good to laugh for pure happiness! "And what about the 'child hanging round your neck'? I'd forgotten all about poor little Judge!"

"Judge has been as much my responsibility as yours all summer, you foolish child." He paused for a moment and spoke more gravely. "You know what my mother's like. Eve, I've never had a home. These evenings last spring in your old back parlor, with Uncle Henry and you and the kid, and Dad now and again. Why, Eve, they were the nearest to a home I've ever had. I want to go on with that, and more—our own children, our own roots and our own memories and associations."

"You're so gay and lovely, so made to be the center of things! Sometimes I wonder if I ought to expect you to be happy with a man like me. I'm not brilliant or amusing, or even awfully fond of wild parties. I love you so that I suppose I'll try to give you whatever sort of life you want, even if you are like Mother, hating home life and staying in bed except for affairs. But I'd hate it. I want you the way you've been this summer, my close friend and companion, as well as—this."

"I know I want roots!"

PRESENTLY she moved a little from him, the better to answer. The Eve of a year ago tonight might have laughed, might have reassured him with half-mocking extravagant words. This Eve answered as slowly as he had spoken, and as quietly:

"I want that too, George. Companionship and understanding, as well as love—maybe the best part of love! I want our daughters to play house with the old lacquer cabinet and remember it always in the same place; and our sons to have a place they'll always remember as home: trees they've always climbed and friends they've always known. I know I want roots, for mine and me."

Her lovely brown eyes smiled at him. "But even if I didn't like the life you like, dear, it would be better than any other life, because it was shared with you. You see, George, I believe I love you very much in the same way you love me."

George, as he had told her, was not a very articulate man. He only held her tight there in the golden autumn orchard and said "Eve darling!"

That Eve of last year might have been mocking, evasive. This Eve only raised a slim, tanned arm and broke a great golden yellow apple, one of those George's work had brought to perfection.

"Our orchard is bearing well," she said softly. "Shall we go home now?"

THE END

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS—By JOHN HIX

For further proof address the author, inclosing a stamped envelope for reply. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



The Royal Kidnaping
Strange as it seems, John of England, youngest son of Henry II, was engaged to two women before he reached his tenth birthday. Born in 1167, he was betrothed to the heiress of the important principality of Maine and Savoy at the age of five. This fell through and in 1176 he was betrothed to Isabella, heiress of the earldom of Gloucester, the woman who became his wife when his brother, Richard, ascended the throne. A year after succeeding his brother to the throne, 1199, John met and fell in love with another Isabella, wealthy heiress to a French province. At the time of their meeting, this Isabella of Angoulême was engaged to Hugh, le Brun, the son of one of John's vassals, but the impetuous king did not let that interfere with his wooing. The day after meeting her, John went off, ostensibly on a hunting trip. Actually, it was a kidnaping trip. Arriving at Isabella's home, he seized her and rode off. Hastily securing a divorce from his first wife, he married his kidnap victim on August 24, 1200.

This high-handed affair brought considerable trouble to John. Le Brun, the blighted sutor, fomented a rebellion against the king in favor of Arthur of Brittany. The rebellion was short lived and Arthur was murdered but other uprisings followed. On October 19, 1216, John died. His queen promptly married her old love, Le Brun.

The Return of Vita
Raised from a pup by Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Roth of St. Louis, Vita was taken with the couple on a trip to Detroit in 1932. While there the German shepherd strayed away. The Roths conducted a frantic search for the dog, failed to find her, and sadly returned to their home 565 miles away.

Five years later, a half-starved dirty dog limped into the Roth yard, barked weakly and licked Mr. Roth's hands. Roth glanced at her, then looked more closely. The lost had returned—it was Vita. Where she was for five years and how she reached her home remains unknown.

Tomorrow: The Ghost Candidate!

SUBURBAN HEIGHTS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



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SMATTER POP

By C. M. PAYNE



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By HAL FORRESTER

DENVERITE WILL HEAD KLAMATH RESERVATION

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—The office of Indian affairs announced today Louis C. Mueller, formerly stationed at Denver, will fill temporarily the post of superintendent of the Klamath Indian agency in Oregon.

METHODIST UNIFICATION DECLARED WELL ON WAY

MINNEAPOLIS, May 6.—(AP)—Bishop H. Lester Smith of Cincinnati

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Skeeter Recovers Fast!

SEVERAL DAYS HAVE PASSED SINCE SKEETER WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL, SUFFERING FROM A BULLET WOUND, HE HAS RECOVERED RAPIDLY... AND IN THE INTERIM, TOMMY HAS BEEN VERY BUSY AT THE AIRPORT, BUT NOT TOO BUSY TO SEE HIS PAL...



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BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Telling Uncle

BRIGHT AND EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, THE PILLINGS BOYS CALLED ON HARD-FISTED, GRIM, OLD CALEB CRUNCHEM, THE BANKER—



By EDWIN ALGER

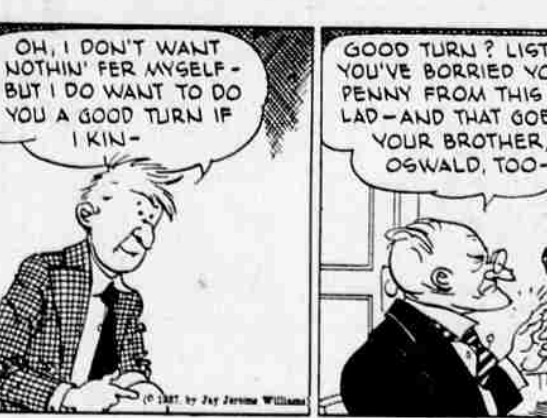
THE NEBBS—Just a Fresh Guy

HELLO FOLKS, ITS A GLORIOUS EVENING - HERE'S THE DOUGH FOR MY TAB AND TRUSTING SOME OF YOU'LL THINK IM SPENDING TOO MUCH MONEY, YOU CAN GET SOME ON ACCOUNT ANY TIME



By SOL HESS

WHAT'S THE MATTER GRUNTLEY - ARE YOU ON A SITTING STRIKE? WHY DON'T YOU DANCE? IT'S LOTS OF FUN - WAKE UP THE OLD MAN - HE'LL WHEEL YOU AROUND - HE'S THE ONLY LIVE ONE IN THE PARTY



By SOL HESS

SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF TOLO EXPLAINS SUSPENSION PLAN

By Mrs. F. A. Tracy, School Director
TOLO, May 6.—(Spl.)—In one way or another a false light has been shed on the Tolo school situation. To those whom it may concern, I would like to give a true picture.

So far as the finances of school district No. 98 are concerned, Tolo is very fortunate in having three corporations paying the bulk of its taxes, namely Southern Pacific railroad, California Oregon Power company, and Gold Ray Realty, also a number of fine dairy ranches, orchards and small farms. As long as this condition exists the school would not become a burden. The building is one of the best and prettiest in the rural districts.

From and after July 1, 1933, a school must have an average daily attendance of six pupils to receive an apportionment of the elementary school funds unless they suspend under section 35-1125, Oregon code, 1930.

Acting under the advice of the district boundary board of which C. R. Bowman is secretary, at a special meeting on April 26, by a vote of the people, this school was suspended accordingly for the coming year.

The average daily attendance for this year was less than four.

Prospective pupils to be transported or have tuition paid in some other school are one 7-year-old girl, one 8-year-old girl and one boy who will be 6 soon.

For a number of years Gold Hill has run a bus over the Old Stage road around by Willow Springs and back through Tolo, so that would seem to be the logical solution to the transportation problem.

However, the wishes of the parents will be taken into consideration before the board of directors, of which J. E. Green is chairman, will make any further decisions.

AUTO FATALITIES DOUBLE IN MARCH

SALEM, May 6.—(AP)—Automobile fatalities during March, almost double that of the same month a year ago, brought the total deaths from traffic accidents to 63 during 1937, reports from the secretary of state revealed today. March fatalities totaled 27 as compared to 15 a year before.

Of the fatalities during that month 11 were pedestrians while the others, with the exception of two were killed in automobile collisions. The two were killed by train collisions.

Injuries during the month also showed an increase over a year ago, with 488 reported as against 461, making a total of 1,313 for the year.

Six of the fatalities occurred in Multnomah county; four in Clackamas county; two each in Clatsop, Jackson and Lane counties and one each in Coos, Deschutes, Harney, Hood River, Josephine, Klamath, Lincoln, Polk, Umatilla, Wallowa and Yamhill counties.

EAGLE PT. HIGH TO STAGE OPERETTA

EAGLE POINT, May 6.—(Spl.)—The Sunbonnet Girl, an operetta by Morgan and Johnson, will be presented by the Eagle Point high school in the Eagle Point Grange hall tomorrow evening. The theme is woven around a music contest held at a farm home.

The cast includes Bob Daly, Irene Stowell, Helen Kent, June Tingleaf, Dorothy Price, George Peaschey, Ralph Lamb, Wanda Howe, Raymond Neugart, Marian Chamberlain, James Vestal, Margaret Simmons, William Marshall and Clara Crandall.

The operetta is under the direction of Miss Yetta Olson. Miss Melba Day is dance director.

E. P. SENIORS WILL GIVE PLAY MAY 13

EAGLE POINT, May 6.—(Spl.)—Grandma Pulls the Strings will be presented by seniors of the Eagle Point high school at the Oasis next Thursday night, May 13. The play is a comedy concerning a youth and his difficulties in winning his bride.

The cast includes Eldred Charley as William Thornton, the infatuated lover; Helen Kent as Hildegarde, the youngest daughter who learned about proposing from a book; Wanda J. Howe as Mrs. Cummings, mother of the family; Margaret Simmons as Julia, with whom Thornton is in love; Helen Price as Grandma, who had the same experience when she was a girl; and Geraldine Scott, the older sister who has been married for only a year and is not sympathetic.

The play will open at 8 o'clock. The program also includes senior class night, with all seniors present.

TALENT SENIORS' PLAY IS FRIDAY

TALENT, May 6.—(Spl.)—Talent high school senior class will present "The Wild Oats Boy," a three-act comedy, in the school gymnasium at 8:15 tomorrow night. The play concerns a youth and his efforts to live up to the terms of a fresh will.

The cast includes Bill Gleim, Margaret McDowell, Helen Galbraith, Dorothy Mathes, Clarence Mathes, Virginia Allen, Helen Combs, Harvey Maxson, Myrtle Hickey, John Childers, Kenton Robbins, James Enderberg and Lester Anderson. Leah Bradley is director and Kenneth Haw stage manager. Specialty numbers will be presented between acts.

SCHOMP WILL MANAGE PAGEANT FOR EUGENE

EUGENE, May 6.—(AP)—The Oregon trail pageant engaged Ralph S. Schomp, who recently resigned as director of educational activities at the University of Oregon, as manager today, replacing Hugh Rossion, who did not seek reappointment.