

WHEN FRIENDSHIP ENDS

(By D. J. Walsh)

THE girl's eyes had a look of eager expectancy in them. Every now and then she raised her head and looked out of the window, which was close to her bed. Eight feet below she could see life burrying and scurrying on without her. But that did not trouble Mary Comstock at this particular moment. Surely, in a little while she would see Amy Dupont's vivid little face coming toward her. Of course, Amy would come. There was no doubt about that. She lived only a block away from the hospital, anyway. She wouldn't desert her chum now that she was ill; for had not Amy been her faithful friend ever since childhood? And they had not made a pledge to stick together no matter what happened. True, Amy had been the chief cause of her unhappiness, but that was unintentional. It wasn't Amy's fault, only Mary's misfortune. If Amy came, her bright face would be with Mary for weeks afterward through the long, wakeful nights. Mary's quick ear detected a light step. That must be Amy now. She glanced up and her face fell a little in disappointment. It was only another nurse entering the ward.

It seemed as though she had known Amy all her life. They had gone through grammar school and high school together. There had not been an escapade, joy or sorrow that Mary had not shared with Amy. Mary chuckled a little as she thought of what fat, placid Mrs. Brown, a neighbor of theirs, had once said.

"I do declare, I never did see two girls stick to each other as much as Mary and Amy do. They like each other better than they do their own folks."

The girl saw herself and Amy at the age of eight walking home from school together, arm in arm. Amy suddenly paused and said:

"Let's be chums."

"All right," Mary agreed, and then she tore a piece off her blue hair ribbon and handed part of it to her companion. "Let's keep this always, cause blue means loyalty."

When they were both sixteen, Amy had the flu. Mary had gone to Amy's home and helped nurse her until she was well again. The following week, due to her exposure to the disease, Mary, too, had the flu. Somehow, Amy never did go to see her. Not that it was her fault. She was so popular that she did not have a minute to spare.

A few weeks later there was an incident at one of the many parties she and Amy had attended that stood out in her memory. Almost every man in their crowd had fallen a victim to Amy's charms. She was always surrounded by men. Never did she dance one dance straight through with one man. Always some one cut in. Mary at that particular moment was sitting in a corner talking with Jim Graham. Dear, big handsome Jim, with his plans and dreams which he always confided to Mary. Her heart smote her as she thought of him. He was the only man who had not been attracted to Amy. Jim was recognized as Mary's private property, and no one ever intruded upon them. Mary and Jim, absorbed in each other, were a little startled to hear a wild, musical little laugh. There stood Amy in front of them, her black head thrown back, her eyes sparkling, her cheeks two burning spots of color, and her dimples flashing.

"Do come out into the garden, Jim," she urged. "The moonlight is just wonderful. I'm sure Mary won't mind." With that she pulled the reluctant Jim away from Mary's side, leaving Mary to sit in her remote corner fuming with rage. But somehow one could not be angry with Amy very long. Mary forgave her the very next day.

Next came the happiest period of Mary's life. She and Jim were engaged. The months of her engagement were deliciously happy ones for Mary. She was not only happy because of herself and Jim, but because of Amy's happiness as well. Amy was now married to Jerome Baxter, one of the wealthiest boys of the city.

A few days before Mary's wedding Amy came to her home with tears in her eyes.

"Please give Jim up for me, Mary dear. You can't possibly love him as much as I do."

"Give him up! Why, Amy, are you crazy? I—I can't give him up for anybody, not even for you. I love him—love him. Do you hear me? And, besides, you are a married woman. You owe some duty to your husband. Why, he worships you, Amy."

"But I love Jim. I don't love my husband. Anyhow, Jim told me that he loves me, not you. He said he couldn't break his word to you."

"That's a lie!" Mary flung out. "I can't, I won't believe it. It's not true. I won't give him up. I won't."

"All right," Amy retorted. "If you want to spoil his happiness as well as mine, go ahead." With that she left Mary sitting listlessly in a chair, pale and shaken.

That night she could not bring herself to return Jim's ring, but she treated him coldly. Troubled and mystified, Jim left the house earlier than usual. Two hours later he was found dead. When his car collided with another, with him was Amy. Somehow, miraculously enough, she had escaped injury. Mary in her wild frenzy of

grief accused Amy of eloping with her sweetheart. But Amy explained the matter satisfactorily and forgave Mary for her bitter accusation.

"You dear goose," Amy said. "Didn't you guess that day when I told you I loved Jim that it was only a little game. I love no one else but my husband. That evening Jerome was out on business. Feeling lonesome, I went to a 'movie.' On my way home I met Jim in his car. He asked me to take a ride with him, and then told me how cruelly you had treated him. Just when I was trying to explain to him that it was all a joke, that—that—dreadful accident occurred. Oh, it's too terrible to speak about!" Mary still remembered the two great tears that had rolled down Amy's cheeks.

"Poor, dear, little Amy. Always trying to help her, Mary, out and getting into trouble. Mary brushed a tear away from her eyes as she thought of these things. And dear Jim. The shock of his death and that of her parents shortly afterward had completely broken her health.

Suddenly, Mary heard a silvery little laugh. Ah, she knew Amy would not fall her, was she not her chum? It was Amy, sure enough. That gay little laugh was unmistakable. Mary glanced out of the window and found that Amy and her husband were standing just below it.

"Come," Jerome Baxter said to his wife, "let's go in and see your friend, Mary."

"Oh, I hate hospitals, and I can't stand sick persons, especially a sentimental little fool like Mary. Hurry back to the office, old dear. You must not waste too much time with your wife after giving her such an expensive lunch. I'm going home to get my beauty sleep so that I'll be nice and rosy for the cabaret party tonight."

The nurse in the hospital ward looked up from her work as a sob reached her ears.

Defoe Never Cut Out for Business Career

Daniel Defoe, the author of "Robinson Crusoe," attempted to establish himself in the business world, but he failed miserably. When he was about thirty years old he failed for about \$85,000, large sum for the period, but he afterward paid his creditors in full, although they had accepted a scaling down of their debts at the time of his failure. A few years later he embarked in business again as a tile maker, but this venture also proved unfortunate, and he lost \$15,000. Thereafter he kept to writing, which was more suited to his genius, although his energy and his imagination might have made him a business leader if seventeenth century conditions had been more like those of today. He got into serious trouble when he published his "Shortest Way With the Dissenters," which a good many respectable people endorsed because they were too stupid to realize that it was a satire at their expense. This made them furiously angry and Defoe had to go into hiding. Finally he surrendered and was sentenced to stand in the pillory and to be imprisoned. But the populace acclaimed him and turned what was meant to be his humiliation into an ovation. He finally won his release and established a paper issued three times a week, which he wrote from cover to cover. He was nearly sixty years old when he wrote the story of "Robinson Crusoe."—Kansas City Star.

New Treatment Gives Porosity to Concrete

"Ice concrete" is the name of a new porous and light building material recently invented in Finland. This new substance is made of cement and sand, like any other concrete, but it differs greatly from ordinary concrete in that it has been made extremely porous by mixing it with crushed ice and snow. Then the moisture is evaporated through heating. By this process the block or the brick is honeycombed evenly by tiny pores. No additional water in composition is needed since the water required is formed through the melting of the ice or snow.

The degree of porosity of this concrete can be accurately determined in advance by the quantity of ice or snow used. Consequently, the weight of the material is in direct relation to the number and the size of the pores. It is possible to use as much as from 50 to 80 per cent of ice or snow in the mixture, thus producing millions of minute pores throughout the material. In Finland, Sweden and Denmark numerous buildings have been erected, using ice concrete.—Scientific American.

Production of Gum Aided by Bacteria

There have been reported to the Royal Society of New South Wales the results of an investigation of the curious role played by bacteria in the formation of various vegetable gums. The action of the bacteria appears to be more complex than might have been supposed. There are, for instance, two kinds of gum arabic—one soluble in water, the other insoluble—and the investigations of the New South Wales experts show that they are produced by two distinct kinds of bacteria. By the cultivation of suitable species of bacteria it is possible to augment the production of gum by certain trees. Under ordinary conditions some species of gum-making bacteria live and multiply without the production of an appreciable amount of gum, but the product is markedly increased by furnishing tannin to the micro-organisms.

DAIRY THE DAIRY

BREED COWS FOR FALL FRESHENING

Breed the milk cow to freshen in the fall for she will then produce more butterfat in a period of 12 months than if bred to freshen in the spring.

"Cows bred during the latter part of January or in February will freshen in early fall and will produce more butterfat during the year than when the calf is dropped in spring," says John A. Arey, dairy extension specialist at the North Carolina State College. "A cow that freshens in the fall does not suffer from hot weather and flies during the period of her heaviest milk flow as does the cow that freshens in the spring. The owner is not rushed with field work in the fall and has more time in which to look after his cows during the heavy milk producing period."

Mr. Arey believes that fall freshening is also desirable because it makes possible the heaviest fat production when the butter market is highest. December butterfat often sells for 12 to 15 cents per pound higher than the butterfat sold in May and June. This means bigger profits for the same labor.

"The majority of our creameries have a surplus of butter during the summer months, and it is necessary for them to consign some of this surplus to the large central markets at a sacrifice in price," says Mr. Arey. "Therefore, they cannot pay the farmer as much for his fat during this season. During the winter months, however, most of the creameries run short of butterfat and cannot produce enough butter to fill local demands."

"A little more attention to the breeding period of cows on the part of their owners would correct this trouble and make possible a greater annual income per cow."

Satisfactory Feed for Success With the Calf

The heifer calf dropped this coming fall—the cow of two or three years hence—should be given a fair start. Whole milk from its dam for the first week and from the herd for two or three weeks longer is almost essential. But as early as the third week of the calf's life it should be offered grain and hay so that it will not miss the fat of the milk when changed to skim milk. The change to skim milk should be made gradually. If whole milk is being sold and there is no skim milk available, powdered buttermilk diluted with nine parts of water and fed at the same rate as skim milk is equally satisfactory. Experimental work has proven the value of buttermilk for calf feeding only where there is no skim milk available as the cost is greater than of skim milk. Whole oats, cracked corn and bran make a good grain for the calf. Coarse alfalfa hay is preferable to leafy hay. A darkened shed will give the calf protection from flies.

Alternating Pastures Is Helpful for Production

Dairymen who are located so that they can alternate their pastures generally find that the practice is helpful in securing greater production. Pastures which carried cattle late in the fall on account of the rains which kept the grass growing are often late starting the following spring.

Where pastures are divided so that cows can be alternated back and forth, this practice allows the grass to get started. Where there is a shortage of pasture, it is usually advisable to plant a crop, such as sudan grass, to supplement the regular pasture. Sudan grass is a hot weather crop and will produce a surprisingly heavy amount of feed if it is allowed to get a good start before pasturing. This makes it a satisfactory crop to supplement the regular pasture during hot, dry weather.

Dairy Facts

A good bull is half the herd—a scrub will ruin the whole herd.

Cool cream immediately after separation and keep it cool until delivered to the creamery.

Dairymen who buy feed in small quantities at retail and sell milk at wholesale are operating at a disadvantage.

June conditions cause the milk cow to give milk. When June conditions are made to exist in January the cow will "shell out" milk just as though it were June.

Millet makes a very good hay for dairy cows, but is not nearly equal to alfalfa in protein.

A man who has never drenched a cow or seen one drenched should call in a neighbor who has had experience and avoid making a mistake.

Good management, including good breeding, has raised the annual production of milk 750 gallons during the last eight years by the "acreage" cow in the herd of Fred H. Merrill of Littleton, N. H.

Page, Line and Paragraph

Grain should be fed to high-producing cows under all pasture conditions.

"In hog raising it is not so much the kind of pasture as it is the necessity of having a good pasture of some kind."—E. Z. Russell.

Although steel and rubber largely enter into the manufacture of automobiles, there is more wood used in this industry than ever was required in the old horse-vehicle business.

Cattle should not be fed within 24 hours before slaughter, but access to fresh water is desirable. Do not kill the animals while in an excited or over-heated condition, as they will not bleed well. Beef from animals not properly bled does not keep well.

Rubber hoof pads are not recommended for horses that work on the farm, as the soil works its way under the pad, causing lameness by extra pressure on the navicular joint. When rubber pads are used, the Bureau of Animal Industry advises that pine tar with a thin layer of oakum should be applied to the sole of the foot to keep it moist and avoid contraction.

The manner in which the average hen molts or sheds her feathers is a reasonably safe guide to follow in weeding out poor layers. The better producers continue to lay late in the fall and therefore do not molt until late. The late molters also molt rapidly as a rule, while the early molters, which are usually the poor layers, molt slowly. Hens that have molted by August or September will show dirty, worn, or broken plumage, while those that have molted early show fresh, clean plumage or growing feathers at this time.

Lightning conductors should be attached direct to a building with metallic fasteners. Porcelain insulators are not required. A good electrical connection with the wet roof and walls of a building, says the weather bureau, helps to relieve the structure of its charge. When a conductor of sufficient weight per foot is used (the minimum is 3 ounces for copper conductors,) there is no danger of the building being fired, even when a direct stroke of lightning is passing through the conductors.

With the approach of the hunting season, the Biological Survey of the United States department of agriculture directs attention to the fact that under the migratory-bird treaty-act regulations, administered by the bureau, the only shorebirds that may be lawfully hunted are Wilson snipe, or jacksnipe, and woodcock. The Federal season has been closed for an indefinite period on black-bellied and golden plovers and until August 16, 1929, on greater and lesser yellowlegs. There is no open season on reed-birds. A copy of the federal game laws and also a bulletin containing a synopsis of Federal, state, and provincial laws relating to the protection of game will be furnished free on request addressed to the United States department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

In a recent questionnaire on the meat buying habits of American housewives, approximately 50 per cent of those questioned believed that the butchers they patronized

handled either the very best or a very good quality of meat. Commenting on this opinion, economist of the United States department of agriculture point out that only 9 per cent of the beef animal slaughtered at the Chicago market in 1924 were graded as prime or choice and suggest that "the lack of consumer knowledge of meat grades and quality was evident."

FARM REMINDERS

A succession of shrubs line Oregon lanes and highways throughout the entire year and contribute largely to the attractiveness of the landscapes. A number of the more popular of these shrubs beginning with the rhododendron and red currant have been listed by the botanists of the agricultural college. The list has been given out by Dr. Helen M. Gilkey of the botany department.

State will spend \$287,000 on desert highway from Burns to Bend.

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