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**OAKLAND HAS RECORD JULY**  
Continuing the record setting pace which has resulted in new high sales figures every month since the first of the year, the Oakland Motor Car Company sold a total of 22,704 Oakland and Pontiac sixes during July, W. R. Tracy, vice-president in charge of sales, announces.  
This compares with 16,752 units sold in July, 1927, or a gain of 35 1/2 per cent; and brings the total of new Oakland and Pontiacs shipped since January 1 to 184,252 cars, Mr. Tracy said. The corresponding performance for the first seven months of 1927 was 112,888 units, or a gain of 63 per cent this year over last.  
In view of the unusual record of the company to date, Mr. Tracy declared that the year 1928 promises to be by a wide margin the most successful in the 22-year existence of the Oakland Motor Car Company.

### The Man From Blaxton

By CLARISSA MACKIE  
(Copyright.)

JAMES KENT looked at his daughter with steady eye. "Allie," he said deliberately, "did I see you last night at the dance with Bill Hinker?"  
"Were you there, dad?" smiled Almira Kent.

"I certainly was—and there was a whole posse with me," retorted the sheriff bluntly. "Perhaps we were looking for somebody that you'd been dancing with, my girl!"  
Almira paled. "I didn't know it," she confessed.

"I asked you, did you go to that dance with Bill Hinker?"  
"Of course Bill took me—you know I have been out with him before."

"I know it, Allie. And your mother and I have both seen you not to have anything to do with him!"  
"If you would only tell me what Bill has done—" she hesitated.

"Well—he has been mixed in all kinds of messes, Allie. The time has come when he has got to be—well, suppressed. He carouses, morning, noon and night, has been suspected of several holdups, and there are witnesses to prove that he was the masked man who held the mail stage on Monday. He has all the brass in the world, daughter, and he must have cleaned up a lot of gold from that mail robbery—it is a wonder, that he hasn't asked you to run away with him—he is that kind and the neighborhood is getting too hot for him, I guess!"

Almira's face reddened deeply. Perhaps her father had guessed truly—for she really had promised to elope with Bill Hinker.

And now her father seemed to understand all about it, even to the planned elopement!

"Was it that man, father?" asked Almira with sudden interest, as a rider swept into the gate and dismounted from a spirited black horse.

"That? Oh, that's the man from Blaxton," muttered her father and went down the steps to greet him. The two men talked together in low tones, and Almira, seeing in her small rocking chair, guessed that it was "police business," as she and her mother had Mr. Kent's office business.

Once the man from Blaxton glanced up and his blue eyes caught Almira's dark gaze. She glanced away immediately and pink came into her cheeks.

After a little while the man from Blaxton rode away and the sheriff came to the porch for a moment before calling for his own horse. "You better not elope tonight, Allie," he said tersely.

As Almira sat there, thinking busily, she heard cautious footsteps, and then, in the small grove of young walnut trees, she glimpsed Bill Hinker's heavy face and molting finger. Then he dropped down among the walnut sprouts. She did not know that Curly Rob, one of the cowboys, had also seen that brief appearance of young Hinker, and that, even now, he was whispering a message over the house telephone!

So the girl dropped her sewing and, picking up a magazine, sauntered over to the walnuts where there was a seat under the largest tree. Here she sat down and pretended to read, but her downcast eyes were fixed on Bill Hinker.

"Get me one of your dad's horses, Allie," he whispered hoarsely. "I got to get out of the county right now, see? The sheriff and his posse are after me—see? Do you want me to get plucked?" he asked acutely.

"Of course not, Billy! But I think if you just tell dad what you told me—about taking the blame for another fellow—he will see you through. I know he will!"

He stared at her, astounded. "I don't get it," he said contemptuously. "You told me that you'd be my girl—and now when I ask you to get me one of your dad's horses—to save me—you sit and yap about something else."

"I will get my own horse, Bill. Pouchie is my very own and I have a right to it."

"Get him then!" snapped the young man sharply.

Almira ran to the corral and caught her pretty black horse, which she saddled. She mounted him, walking him leisurely around the house toward the walnut shoots. Just as she slipped out of the saddle, Bill Hinker leaped onto the horse and went tearing out of the yard and down over the western trail toward the mountains. Five minutes afterward her father and the man from Blaxton, heading a posse, swept past the house and turned down the eastern trail. Almira fainted.

A couple of hours afterward Almira awakened in her cool little room to find her pretty mother sitting beside her bed, looking terribly worn and anxious. "Oh, mother, is daddy all right?" was her first question, and when her mother nodded she gasped a question about Bill Hinker.

"Caught," said her mother, briefly. "He was very guilty, my dear, and they have put him in jail. There is something else that you didn't know, dear—Bill was married last year."

It was a long time before Almira wanted to see anybody, but after a while she did meet the man from Blaxton, who had come to the ranch for dinner, and although she rather hated him at first because he had known how foolish she could be, her persistent wooing at last won her. People said it was a wonderful wedding—that of the prettiest bride and the handsomest man in the county!



**The KITCHEN CABINET**  
(Est. 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)  
The idea, shared by many, that life is a vale of tears, is just as false as the idea shared by a great majority of the idea to which youth and health and riches incline you, that life is a vale of contentment.  
Life is a place of service, and in that service one has to suffer a great deal that is hard to bear, but more often to experience a great deal of joy.  
But that joy can be real only if people look upon their life as a service, and have a definite object in life outside themselves and their personal happiness—Tolstoy.

### CAKES AND ICINGS

A cake is a simple thing for most cooks to prepare, provided they have good materials; but the filling and icing are often the rigorous finishing touch. When making boiled frosting it is so easy to toll it a fraction of time too long, and it will be hard, or too-short and it will be sticky or run off the cake. When occupied with too many things, the icing to make a little at a time, adding more sugar if needed to make of the proper consistency to spread.

**Maple Syrup Cake.**—Cream one-half cupful of butter and add one and one-half cupfuls of sugar. Dissolve three-fourths of a teaspoonful of soda in one-half cupful of hot water, add two well-beaten egg yolks and two and one-half cupfuls of flour sifted and one teaspoonful of baking powder and one-fourth teaspoonful each of salt and ginger, then fold in the stiffly beaten whites. When partially cool cover with maple syrup icing. Boil one and-half cupfuls of maple syrup until it spouts a third, then pour slowly over the stiffly beaten whites of two eggs, beating until thick enough to cover the cake. Dot with halves of walnut meats and cut into squares when setting.

Fresh fruit cut into small bits, one kind or two or more, sweetened and chilled and served in steamed glasses is a dessert easy to prepare and always liked.

*Kellie Maxwell*

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