

Culmination

By FANNIE HURST

(By the Michigan Newspaper Syndicate.)

WANDA WHALEN was what you might call a small town girl with a big town spirit. Although she had been born in the pretty town of Medrose, a thriving little place situated on a river notable for the beauty of its winding banks, Wanda had practically never lived there. That is, until she came home from an eastern college and found herself, for the first time in her sixteen years, confronted with the idea of spending a winter at home.

Up to that time there had been two years that the Whalens had spent abroad, previous to the death of her father, Cyrus Whalen, president of the Medrose City bank.

There had been Wanda's years at a young ladies' school in Boston and the subsequent four years at a girls' college in New York. Her summers had been spent either at the elaborate camps of elaborate friends, the Medrose estate in Canada or in Europe.

All in all, Medrose had seen practically nothing of Wanda, since her toddler years.

Meanwhile, the town had grown. Quite a residential district had sprung up around the end of the town that still dominated by the handsome old Whalen mansion.

What with her parents' recent death and the marriage of an only brother and his subsequent removal to Salt Lake City, Wanda was virtually the head of that mansion. When in Medrose she shared it with a maternal aunt named Rosa Lee Masters. A faded, rather lovely-looking edition of the more robustly charming woman who had been Wanda's mother, Rosa Lee ran the house with effectiveness and skill. The brief periods that Wanda spent at home were entirely devoid of the responsibilities of her elaborate household or of the many duties that might naturally clamor for the attention of a young heiress recently come into large holdings.

Bertrand Rosa Lee and an only sister, family relative and lawyer named Jade O'Higgins, Wanda's days continued to be peculiarly care-free and devoted almost entirely to the business of making life as enjoyable as possible. To the girls of Medrose, who sometimes did Wanda injustice, regard her frequent comings and goings a snobbery, she was, nonetheless, an object of perpetual admiration and mystery. There was something exotic about Wanda. She belonged to a great outside world of things that made her a person apart from the usual run. Even the Medrose girls who were to a nodding to travel about a bit themselves, and who had enjoyed the advantages of finishing school, were nonetheless a little under the spell of Wanda. She rode horseback like a daredevil. The streets of Medrose gave to her, striding through them to huffy knickers on a cross-country jaunt. She had a swimming pool built on the extensive grounds of the Whalen mansion and there were rumors of midnight swims when eastern friends came, out for house parties. Once a motion picture star of international reputation, a Polish pianist and a senator from New York state had made up the personnel of one of these visiting groups.

Wanda's name and photograph were forever in the Medrose paper, to say nothing of the eastern society and daily sheets.

The town agreed, a little reluctantly, that Medrose was no place for her. There was really nothing there to keep a girl of her kind and occupied a girl-of-the-world like Wanda.

Wanda, although she felt an affection for her little home city, came to about the same decision that first winter she spent there. There was nothing for her or two girls who were agreeable to her. Edna Martin, who rode horseback with her. And the young daughter of the mayor of the town. A pretty girl named Tyron. There were even one or two of the local boys congenial to her. Larry Picotto, who was a lawyer's apprentice and who drove his father's car like a whiz. And a rather reserved young fellow, Chalmers Clay, whose father had once been one of the influential men of the state; but whose family had gradually fallen into arrears until Chalmers and his mother, last survivors, occupied a little grey frame house on the edge of the town.

Chalmers was good fun because he was a quiet and more thoughtful nature than any of the boys who frequented Whalen's. He was an architect by preparation and was already eagerly working toward the day when he would have earned respect for his first trip abroad.

But outside of this small group of picked friends, Wanda's interests lay in the world beyond. New York with its theaters, its concerts, its pastimes lured her. There were old ties to be renewed with friends she had met during the years abroad. She was yearning for a year in Paris. Another in Rome. Budapest! Vienna!

Her first quick judgment in these years after the death of her parents was to sell the Whalen house and take up permanent residence in New York. Sentiment forbade that. Besides it was fitting that while Rosa

Lee lived the house should be kept up for her.

But it was decided almost without opposition, indeed with the co-operation of Jade O'Higgins, that the thing for Wanda to do, now that her business interests were sufficiently concentrated, was to practically transfer her residence to the metropolis. In a subtle way, in a fashion not to bring the rebuke of Medrose down upon her pretty head.

Because, after all, it was in Medrose that the Whalens had accumulated their fortune. Medrose had been kind to her family. Deep in her heart, however, much as the sleepy little town might have bored her, Wanda felt this and was grateful.

So, on the bright spring morning that Wanda set out for Medrose for New York, few except her intimates knew that there was anything unusual about this particular departure. To all external intents and purposes, Wanda was simply off on another of her frequent jaunts, here, there and everywhere. The society column reported it. The society weekly commented upon it. And there was an end of it. But what the town at large did not know was that Wanda was practically, as she stood chic and gayly dressed at the station that day, shaking the dust of Medrose off her shoes.

Edna Martin and Tyron and Larry and Chalmers were at the station to bid her adieu. There was a more solemn note than usual lying underneath it.

Wanda was practically leaving, for good. Tyron, in spite of the fact that Wanda was promising to take her abroad with her next summer and one, shed frankness as the train pulled out. The boys doffed hats rather sadly. There was something a little too final about it all, not to be depressed by it.

For twenty-eight months Wanda did not set foot in Medrose, contrary to her expectations, neither did she go abroad, because of a course in interior decoration which had caught her attention in New York and to which she devoted the major part of her time. Tyron went to Paris on funds gaily supplied by Wanda, but, to the surprise of those who knew her, the young heiress went through with the work that was interesting her at home.

At its conclusion, however, she did go abroad. On a twelve-months' tour of Italy and France, devoting her time to a study of the galleries and the interiors of the larger European cities.

They were pleasant months, filled with interest in her work and an honest and sustained desire to get on in it.

Again her friends marvelled. Wanda was by nature as gay and as temperamentally many-colored as a humming-bird. Wanda liked to flirt. Wanda liked to drive mad cars. Wanda liked the shimmering, shimmering dances of the period. Ride gondolas to moonlight with a youth proper to the occasion.

Wanda was in search of romance. She admitted it to herself.

It was part of the wanderlust. Somewhere on the face of the globe that she was free to wander at will, there lurked what she sought and that kept her feet wandering on.

It beckoned her from city to city, from country to country, from mood to mood.

Somewhere lurked romance. She found it in an old corner of a garden in Florence.

Turning a shaded walk, suddenly, in the Boboli gardens, she came upon the left shoulder of a young man dabling paint upon a canvas that was propped upon a small easel.

For ten minutes, standing there regarding that left shoulder, Wanda, the level-headed Wanda, knew before he swung around to face her, that she was in love.

Knew it with a certainty, and in this case a most sure-fire, instinct of hers that was never to fail her.

Of course the face, when it swung around, was to bow her over; to paralyze her for the moment with surprise. With a flutter of heart beat.

It was the face of Chalmers Clay. It was the face that was ultimately to lead her from the four corners of the earth, back to Medrose for the culmination of her romance.

Slot Machine Principle Familiar to Egyptians

It is an interesting fact that a slot machine that was patented in the United States late in the Nineteenth century was of practically the same construction as one used about 2000 B. C. in an Egyptian temple.

The credit for inventing this ingenious machine probably belongs to Cleisthenes, who was also the inventor of the siphon.

The Egyptian slot machine was used to dispense purifying water to the worshippers in the temple. A clever arrangement of lever and valve inside a vase-like container allowed a small portion of the holy water to escape when the sum of five drachmas was dropped through a slot in the top.

The weight of the correct number of coins caused the lever to open the valve in the bottom of the vase, and when the lever tilted, the coins slid off into the accumulation below, and the flow of water was stopped.

Rare The Australian platypus is a furry mammal with a beak like a duck's.

It lays two eggs at a time but otherwise acting as any other animal, sucking its young. In short, a survival, which Australia is trying hard to preserve.

\$75 IS ADDED TO CLOTHES-FUND BY SECOND BENEFIT

Additional Footwear For-Needy Children To Be Provided From Proceeds Of Affair

The second benefit affair of the Clarenceville Cloth Needy Children Committee was as successful as the first, the report of Chairman Willis T. Roberts indicates. Better ticket sales and wholehearted co-operation by everyone connected with the event are credited for the success.

Of the \$133.16 collected through the October 28 entertainment, \$30 was in donations and almost \$20 in contributions in lieu of fines, in addition to the money received through ticket sales.

The affair December 20 brought in about \$75, the income being received solely from admissions and a keno game.

Only footwear is to be bought with the December receipts, as Red Cross garments will be distributed through the Township welfare system. More than 40 pairs of shoes and 20 galoshes, in addition to numerous articles of clothing, were provided from the October benefit money.

Distribution of shoes will not be resumed until school starts, the chairman says.

Floyd Nichols of Farmington won the 15-pound turkey given as a door prize at the benefit, and Emerson Coe of Clarenceville won the live Christmas tree in the keno game.

CHRISTMAS PARTY GIVEN BY I. O. O. F TO 400 CHILDREN

Annual Entertainment, Games, Gifts Made Possible By Clarenceville Lodge

More than 400 children were feted at the Clarenceville Odd-fellows' annual Christmas party last Thursday. Entertainment, games and gifts of good things were provided for the children.

The party was made possible by contributions from the lodge treasury and individual members, and the receipts from the sale of a live Christmas tree in a keno game at the benefit December 20.

Sacks of popcorn, peanuts and fruit were given each child. Chairman for the party was Mr. Richardson, and Willis T. Roberts acted as master of ceremonies.

Ford Leads Competitors In Commercial Sales

Despite virtual absence from the market for several months early in 1932 due to the introduction of new models, Ford led all competitors during the first ten months of the year in sales of commercial cars and trucks, according to an announcement by Olin Russell, Inc., Farmington Ford dealer.

The statement, which was based upon official figures reported by R. L. Polk & Co., showed that Ford, during this period had registered a total of \$7,991 units, or 36.1 per cent of the total of 160,582 units of all makes. This compared with 55.75, or 34.7 per cent of the total, for the next make.

It also pointed out that since Ford re-entered the market in the spring, Ford sales of commercial cars and trucks consistently have exceeded sales of other makes.

Insurance Company Will Entertain Policy Holders

Policyholders of the State Farm Mutual and State Farm Life Insurance Companies are to be entertained with eight reels of talking motion pictures at the Methodist Church, Farmington, Friday evening, January 6, at 8 p. m. according to H. J. Richman, Farmington agent.

Titles of the pictures are "The Benefactor" and "Horse Sense," three-reel farm plays by farm folks who are said to carry their roles with professional skill. Other subjects are farm news, reels of the National Corn Husking Contest, the National Dairy Show and International Live Stock Exposition, featuring the boys' and girls' section of the show. There is no admission charge, according to Mr. Richman.

DR. ASCHENBRENNER'S FATHER VISITS HERE

Dr. Carl Aschenbrenner of Pella, Iowa, who has been visiting his son Dr. Z. R. Aschenbrenner and family, will return to Iowa early next week. He was elected last month to the Iowa State Senate and plans to return to his home State in time for opening of the legislative session on January 7.

The Bateman-Wood six piece orchestra will play for the O. E. S. holiday dance at Farmington Friday, December 30. The dance will be at at Town Hall and 25 cents admission will be charged.

Adv.

RENT QUESTION IS SERIOUS PROBLEM FACED BY BOARD

Justice Points Out Consideration Due Owners Of Property Occupied By Indigents

Farmington Township will soon be facing another serious aspect of the welfare problem, hitherto little considered, members of the Township Board were told last Friday at the special meeting held to complete further details of the welfare program. Some consideration must be given, Justice Willis T. Roberts declared, to the situation of the owner of properties whose houses are occupied by families on the welfare list, unable to pay rent.

Justice Roberts declared that the owners of these properties have been forgotten in the welfare situation thus far, but that this condition can go on no longer. At least, he declared, these property-owners cannot continue to pay taxes when they are receiving no rent-money.

Justice Roberts threw out a suggestion which has been proposed in other localities, that some arrangement be made whereby owners of houses occupied by welfare families would receive a credit on their tax-bills for the occupancy of their homes by indigents. He declared that one or two owners of numerous pieces of property have already asserted to him that some remedy must be offered at once. Numerous evictions may be started, he said, unless consideration is given to this problem. Up to this time, he declared, he has been able in his court to forestall eviction proceedings, but if the Township authorities give no attention to the matter, the property-owners will not wait long before starting action to stop the tenants.

"Vast Difficulty" Members of the Board said that they realized this was an additional problem, but discussion served only to emphasize the difficulty of meeting it, is addition to the problems of food and warmth. Supervisor Coe said that the County authorities have felt that the rent problem is so vast that if they could do very little, that if

once the practice of paying rent was begun, the situation would become entirely hopeless within a short time, not only as to rent, but as to food as well.

However, Mr. Coe and other members of the Board indicated that as soon as the pressing requirements of food and fuel could be taken care of and that part of the work organized, they would direct attention to the rent problem and endeavor to work it out in some way to advantage of the landlords of indigent families.

Medical Problem, Too Still another problem before the authorities, but this was not quite so vexing as the rent matter, is the one of medical care. It is believed that with the highly co-operative spirit of doctors in this vicinity, a plan can be worked out to care for the health of Township indigents without expecting the doctors to give services and medicine and getting no return. At least one physician is said to have stated that if the Township would pay enough for each call to cover gasoline and expense of supplies, services would gladly be given without recompense.

It is planned to call a meeting of four physicians of the community with the Township Board to make arrangements for medical care.

NOVI NEWS

Special meetings will be held at the Novi Baptist Church, each night from January 1 to 8, with Obed Stuckey, assistant superintendent of Detroit City Rescue Mission, as speaker. Stuckey will also help in the meetings. They will give a musical program each night of vocal and instrumental duets, as well as play the musical saw. Everyone is invited to attend. The meetings will start at 8 o'clock.

NEW TELEPHONE

The new telephone installed in Farmington during the week ending December 24 is Farmington Market, 33409 Grand River, 122.

Frank Tufts, Consumers Power Co. service man, has moved to 33722 Macomb Street.

Send in your news items.

1933 Goodfellow Drive Was Most Successful

(Continued from page one) there was a deficit of \$1.87 when the figures were drawn up, and that this amount has since been made up, bringing the income even with the outlay. The total of money contributed was \$212.35, as compared with \$155 last year, and the additional sum proved to have been needed.

Bustle At Legion Home The American Legion Home

looked like a combination grocery, flour-mill, meat-market, candy shop and warehouse last Friday as Goodfellows of both organizations gathered to fill and distribute 424 baskets. "Mike" Carrier presided in the morning and "Joe" Himmelspach in the afternoon, working like the proverbial beavers in getting the baskets filled and out to the waiting cars. As "extras" in each basket were metal-banks filled with candy, one for each child in the family. They had been filled by the Boy Scouts.

The detailed report submitted by Mr. Nichols is as follows:

Number of Cash Subscriptions: City 144; Township 6. Amount Received was \$212.35. Barrel contributions amounted to \$14.70, making a total of \$227.05.

Other contributions received were 5 bushels of Pepper and Banana Squash, 85 pounds of Cottage Cheese, 80 pecks of potatoes and 37 twenty-five pound sacks of flour.

There were 89 baskets distributed at a cost of \$2.71½ each, making a total of \$228.92. There was a deficit of \$1.87.

Lower prices on foodstuffs helped to bring the per basket cost considerably below that of last year. The contents of the baskets were as follows:

Meat, 7 lbs. average; Butter, 1 lb.; Coffee, 1 lb.; Bread, 2 loaves; Peas, 2 cans; Milk, 2 cans; Soup, 2 cans; Sugar, 5 lbs. Celery, 1 bunch; Flour, 5 lbs, 10 lbs, and 25 lbs.; Beans, 3 lbs.; Rice, 3 lbs.; Jelly, 2 packages; Apples, 1 peck; Candy, 1 to 2 pounds; Basket; Potatoes, 1 peck; Cottage Cheese, 1 lb.; Oranges, 1 to each person; and 2 to 4 Squash.

Consult the Professional Directory on page two when you require a doctor's services.

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