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SHORT STORY

Luck Of the Irish

By DEE RANDALL

ANN and Terry were young. They were in love. That's why the sky looked blue, the clouds looked whiter as they lay arm in arm on the fresh green grass. "Just think," said Ann. "Tomorrow at this time I'll be Mrs. Terrence Patrick O'Halloran."

"Sure and the O'Hallorans were always lucky," Terry exclaimed, mimicking his grandfather. After the wedding it was grand fun going together to the little white frame house they had selected. Most of their savings had gone into the modestly furnished little place. But it was a home. Theirs.

Then Marianne was born. A sweet pale baby but so delicate. It took a great deal of skimping to meet all the expenses.

They lived simply and Ann knew how to get the most out of everything.

Right in the middle of this economical but ecstatic heaven of theirs a thunderbolt crashed.

Terry lost his job. But youth is not easily discouraged. Terry set out to find another job. He was eager to work. He was sure to find something better.

His enthusiasm wavered however after several weeks. Too many. "Sorry, young fellow, but we're not taking anyone on."

Back home evenings with Ann though, he was optimistic. "I've got a good prospect tomorrow," he would say, and Ann's answer invariably would be:

"Don't worry Terry. We've still got a little money in the bank."

Terry thought to himself, how little it was.

ANN tried to keep her worries from him too. She didn't tell him that there was going to be another baby, until it was impossible to keep it a secret any longer.

He took her in his arms. "Ann darling, it's wonderful." But he couldn't keep the note of despair out of his voice as he said, "If it's a boy, I hope he's a better success than I am."

Their money dwindled down to nothing. Debts piled high. They lost their little home.

They moved to a smelly, dank tenement. But they weren't discouraged yet. The future surely held something good for them.

But Terry gradually declined, pulled himself into a shell. Ann was sweet and kind. Terry misunderstood. He thought she grieved. He brooded. There was only the one way out. Suicide. It would look like an accident.

GAS would be the best way. He planned the whole thing stealthily. He knew he was a coward. But he had to do it. He couldn't bear to see Ann go on this way any longer.

It was the way he always had loved to wake up.

The \$1,000 insurance would mean Ann could go to a hospital when the baby was born. After that . . . he couldn't think of any more.

His opportunity came quicker than he had expected. That night Ann said she was going for a walk in the fresh air.

She kissed him goodbye, then went out, telling him to take care of Marianne. "I'll take a nap," he said, "my head aches."

Alone, he went to the kitchen. Turned on the gas. Then laid down exhausted. He dozed off.

He didn't know how soon after, but it seemed like an eternity. Ann was gently stroking his head. It was the way he loved to wake up in the morning.

It all seemed so unreal Ann was excitedly waving a paper in front of him. "It's from your firm. They want you back. Things are picking up. You'll take old Jim Blake's place. And there'll be a \$10 raise."

Now Terry was sure he was dreaming. "The gas," he said.

"Oh, how did you know?" questioned Ann. "I didn't want to tell you but we can have it turned on tomorrow. They were really very polite, waiting until after supper time."

"Yes," said Terry, "the O'Hallorans were always lucky."

Released by WNU Features

Clinic Results Show No Active T. B. Here

Results of the T. B. clinic survey sponsored here in October by the Lions Club have been received by Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong, who was chairman of the survey here and show that Georgetown is almost 100 per cent free of the disease. Of the 1630 X-rays taken, no cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered. Some evidence of the disease were found in four residents, one of these being classed as inactive and the other three of questionable activity.

The X-rays showed a total of 26 other diseases, and abnormalities, classed as follows:

- Accentuated lung markings . . . 6
- Healed pleurisy 8
- Apical scarring 6
- Small density 2
- Abnormal heart 6
- Dust inhalation 1
- Wide mediastinum 1
- Possible bronchiectasis 1
- Resolving pneumonia 1

The Oakville Lions Club which has charge of all T. B. surveys in Halton County pays for this and other surveys through sale of Christmas seals which are again on sale this year. The Club hopes to raise enough money by this means in 1947 to examine over 13,000 County residents next year. In 1947, 13,700 or 40 per cent of the total County population, took advantage of this free service and when next year's work is completed, practically every resident who desired the examination will have had it.

The Oakville Lions report an excellent response to date in the Christmas Seal sale and are particularly pleased that purchases are being made from varied groups of people rather than mainly industries as in the past.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of William Herbert Erwin, late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, deceased, and in the Estate of Margaret McDonald Erwin, late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, widow, deceased.

The Creditors of William Herbert Erwin, late of the Town of Georgetown in the County of Halton, Engineer, deceased, who died on or

about the 1st day of February, 1935, and the creditors of Margaret McDonald Erwin, late of the Town of Georgetown in the County of Halton, widow, deceased, who died on or about the 30th day of April, 1947, and all others having claims against both or either of the above Estates are hereby notified to send by post, prepaid or otherwise to deliver to Messrs. Langdon & Aylsworth, Georgetown, Ontario, Solicitors for the undersigned Administratrix of the estate of William Herbert Erwin and Margaret McDonald Erwin, deceased, on or before the 1st day of January, 1948, their names, addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their claims and the nature of the securities, if any, held by them not later than the 1st day of January, 1948, and that immediately thereafter the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the Estates of the said William Herbert Erwin and Margaret McDonald Erwin, amongst the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Administratrix shall then have notice.

DATED this 26th day of November, 1947.

Madeline Jean Swackhamer, Administratrix

By LANGDON & AYLSWORTH, Her Solicitors, Georgetown, Ontario

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of JOHN BOYD MACKENZIE

All persons having claims against the Estate of John Boyd Mackenzie, late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, gentleman, deceased, who died on or about the Fifth day of October, 1947, are requested to file proof of same with the undersigned solicitor for the Executors on or before the Twenty seventh day of December, 1947, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated at Acton this Fifth day of December, 1947.

Samuel John Mackenzie, Kenneth Alexander Mackenzie, Executors.

By their Solicitor, C. F. LEATHERLAND, Acton, Ontario

12-24

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SET PYREX COLOURED MIXING BOWLS \$3.70

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