

The Free Press Short Story

Muddy Creek Overflows

HARRIET LUMMAS SMITH

An exciting contest was going on in the Marburg High School. Not only the students but the townspeople as well were watching with interest, taking sides and freely prophecying the outcome.

Everyone in school had taken for granted that when Anne Temple reached her senior year she would have everything her own way, just as she had had ever since her kindergarten days.

Then at the beginning of Anne's senior year Cornelia Ridd had entered the class. Cornelia was a big, raw-boned silent girl, the daughter of a farmer who had just rented a farm lying to the west of Marburg.

Anne admitted it without argument. "Of course I never pretended to have any brains," continued Kitty, whose right to the title of class dandy was unquestioned.

"Cornelia had one tremendous advantage over Anne. Her school work was everything to her. She did not care for any of the outside interests that meant so much to Anne.

"The year went on. Anne studied harder than ever and stopped going out so many evenings in the week; Cornelia held steadily to her course.

By midwinter most of the high school students thought that Cornelia would come out ahead, though all acknowledged that the race was close.

All winter long Cornelia had walked to and from school—three miles, every morning and three miles back in the afternoon.

Cornelia stood staring at the sheet of water that barred her way. The wind ruffled its surface exactly as if it had been a real lake, leaving in her mind the impression that the water was laughing at her.

"I don't want to go back!" she exclaimed vehemently as if somebody had been urging her to do it. "I won't!"

"The middle of March is not the season for going barefoot. Cornelia gasped as she put her foot down on the muddy road, and with each step she gasped again, it took only four steps to bring her to the water.

not laughed, but had set looking at Cornelia's convulsive struggles with grave sympathy. Kitty had explained to her how Cornelia had reached school that day. "Why all over the road, you know. Our mill can't get across, and that girl look off her shoes and stockings and waded through. What do you think of that?"

The Vergil recitation was half done when a dash of rain struck the window-pane. Cornelia looked up with a start. The sky was overcast again. The rain was beginning anew.

"I suppose this is just a waste of time," she said to herself gloomily. "They'll have to come off again."

As a matter of fact they did come off again, not once but twice. Cornelia did no more screaming. She went ahead with a curious feeling of desperation, as if she were to go on forever floundering through pools as cold as ice.

"You can't get home," she said to herself. "If you don't get out of here now you will never see the water again."

The girls crowded round. Cornelia found herself a little impatient of their interest and yet a little flattered by it. "Of course the water's over the road," she replied shortly.

"I'm like the woodchuck that climbed back to the tree," said Cornelia. "He did it because he had to, and it's the same with me."

"I was thinking," Anne went on, talking rather fast, "that, if you could telephone your mother, so she wouldn't be frightened, you could come home with me and stay till the roads are better."

"I would be a shame for you to miss any of school just now," said Anne. "I'd be ever so glad to have you stay with me. You can telephone your mother, so she won't worry, and I can let you have the things you'll need."

"I don't want to go back!" she exclaimed vehemently as if somebody had been urging her to do it. "I won't!"

At ten o'clock the Vergil class filled into the room of the Latin teacher, Mrs. Train. Cornelia was the second one who was called on to recite.

"I don't want to go back!" she exclaimed vehemently as if somebody had been urging her to do it. "I won't!"

She was again and again assured that she could win. "I'll be back in a jiffy," she said to herself. "I'll be back in a jiffy."

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SLATS DIARY BY ROSE PARQUHAR

Friday—Ant Emmy was invited to her nuptial wedding which happened this evening, but Ant Emmy had a Attack of Quinsy and couldn't go and she was very disappointed because she says she has never miss'd 1 of her nuptial weddings before and she hates to stay in Missing them.

Saturday—Pa was supposed to give a talk on how to improve your memory down at the women's Club tonight but he got intrusted in a-Mystery story and forgot to go to the meeting.

Sunday—Pa spent a Miserable Sunday at home today becuz in yesterday's paper when he rote about the people which give a play last Friday night he held. The Cats enjoyed a super at the home of the superintendent of the school.

Tuesday—Pa was telling Ma and Ant Emmy that he believe'd old Turk Plint has quit leading a dabble life. Ant Emmy says the Diphtheria must of time'd go to him if he is Economizing that much.

Wednesday—Pa says the judge which tried Curt Minch for Bigamy didn't show him much mercy. Ant Emmy wonder'd how many yrs. in Prison the judge give Curt Minch and Pa replied and sed. Wise then that he turned him Looose and wooden't leave him to jail.

Thursday—I guess I don't want to go to the pitcher show tonight on acct. of my eye is a little to black after I and Pug Stevens sat a kinda tile after skool. O well I guess it just proves that the Hand is quicker than the Eye.

Stop the Cough—Coughing is caused by irritation in the respiratory passages and is the effort to dislodge obstructions that come from inflammation of the mucous membrane. Treatment with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil will allay the inflammation and in consequence the cough will usually stop. Try it and you will be satisfied.

Step the Cough—Coughing is caused by irritation in the respiratory passages and is the effort to dislodge obstructions that come from inflammation of the mucous membrane.

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CANADIAN DAIRY HISTORY

Dairying is one of the oldest and has become one of the most important of Canadian industries. The permanent establishment of cattle in Canada dates from about the year 1608, when Champlain brought a few head of cattle to the colony at Quebec.

Early records show that in 1801 there was a surplus of butter, at Kingston, Ontario, and that some was exported to the United States. It was not until 1864, however, when the factory system was introduced, that dairying entered upon the era of development and expansion which has placed it in the forefront of the 'industries of Canada.'

The Government of Canada, through the Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Department of Trade and Commerce, in various ways is promoting the interests of the dairy industry. The Dairy and Cold Storage Branch has charge of this work for the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

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REASON

"George comes from a very poor family. 'Why, they sent him to the university, didn't they?' 'Yes, that's how they got so poor.'"

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THE QUEEN'S PARK ARENA By The Watchman

Toronto—"We make no boast as a Provincial Government to being able to fully solve the problem of unemployment; we have never made such a claim, either in office or before we took office. But we must and shall claim that we are getting things done."

It was a mastery address on the most important problem confronting governments to-day. Carefully prepared, with illuminating facts giving a picture of the unemployment situation in the province and the steps being taken to combat the scourge, the address was the nearly non-political as it was possible to be.

Mr. Croil, making his maiden speech in the Legislature, contented himself with the facts as he found them and rarely in his 120 minutes of speaking did he find it necessary to dwell on anything but human values.

Not that he did not hit hard at obvious abuses and injustices. There was scarcely an interruption from Opposition benches when he condemned professional agitators and certain municipalities for taking advantage of an unfortunate state of affairs in the lives of men and women.

Space is so short for anything but a brief resume of the Welfare Minister's address. He contrasted the confusion found in the Welfare Department when he took over with the orderly, uniform system now in effect. No extravagant claims were made but the House was told that as far as provincial jurisdiction went, the province would do its share to the limit. Politics would play no part in the administration of unemployment relief. Much still remained to be done but of necessity the work must be slow, though progress would be steady.

A feature of Mr. Croil's budget speech was that interruptions were few and there were no acrimonious debates. The Minister showed a complete grasp of the subject and his facts and figures allowed of no contradiction. Applause thundered from all sides of the Legislature when the Minister ended on the ringing note of "human values first, always."

EXPLAIN, PLEASE Some noisy relatives were visiting a couple and happened to mention the dog, a big mongrel. "He's just like one of the family," said the pup's proud mistress. "Which one?" asked the mistress.

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Advertisement for Master Chevrolet, featuring a large illustration of a car and the slogan 'ANOTHER WAY OF LOOKING AT IT!'. The ad lists '5 Exclusive Features' including Turret Top, Blue Flame Engine, Kne-Action Ride, Cable-Controlled Brakes, and Fisher No-Draft Ventilation. Price is listed as \$885 from GMAC monthly terms. Dealer: Daymond Bros. Georgetown.



It's FINE either way!

It's so handy to have a package of Kellogg's All-Bran in the kitchen. Serve it as a cereal. Use it also as a wholesome ingredient in your muffins, breads, omelets, waffles, etc.



Keep on the Sunny Side of Life

Advertisement for Rumacaps, stating 'JOINTACHES? ACING, MUNCLER AND JOINTS are quickly relieved by RUMACAPS. Brown's Drug Store'.