The Free Press Short Story

MUDDY CREEK OVERFLOWS

HARRIET LUMMIS SMITH

townspeople as well were watching with ward. Then she thought of Anne and interest, taking sides and Treely houitated no longer. Gathering her skirts prophesying the outcome.. The Jane about her, she stepped resolutely into Dillon meddl, awarded to the girl student | the ley water ... The shock of it surprised who got the highest marks during her her into uttering a muffled shrick, yet senior year, was not an empty honor; she went splashing ahead and presently it meant a scholarship at the state found herself on dry ground; her legs college.

thing her own way, just as she had had ever since her kindergarten days. Anne's fairy godmother, who had endowed her with good looks, family prestige and have to come off again." . charm, had not failed to add brains. Anne learned rapidly, remembered accurately and led her class apparently no more screaming. She went ahead without exerting herself or sacrificing with a curious feeling of desperation, as any of her pleasures.

west of Marburg. It had taken a week road was overflowed, she should have sat school to realize that at last down by the water and died. recognized it the first day.

at." Kitty Merrill remarked to Anne.

Anne admitted it without argument. "Of course I never pretended to have unquestioned, "but if I wanted the Jane Rudd."

Cornelia had one tremendous advant-Her school work was meant so much to Anne. She had never been to a party in her life and had not here?" the slighest desire to go to one. She took no part in the social life of the which Anne was the leader life. Cornelia might have claimed as her motto the saying, "This is the thing that I was born to do.", Study was her found herself a little impatient of their recreation as well as her work. Anne rival with the single aim is the rival road," she replied shortly. "But it's not

to be dreaded. evenings in the week: Corhelfa held steadily to her course. Cornella to merriment. "Well, rather," she said had a double incentive; she wanted to at last. "I suppose it's a little over two the tree," said Cornelia. "He did it bewin partly because she suspected her feet deep in the deepest parts I struck. schoolmates all of being an Anne's side. Your milkman must be more afraid of me." but more because, unless she won the water than most of 'em are," she added scholarship, her education was likely to witheringly. stop with high school. When Cornelia have made Anne apprehensive had she till she understood it, stared incredulous- her answer, spoken dryly, was: "No,)

seen it. students thought that Cornelia would come out ahead, though all acknowledged that the race was close. A triffe might throw the victory to either of the and amazement rivals. . Anne was beginning to look

be because I didn't try." morning and three miles back in the afternoon. She had faced many a storm and several times had waded through unbroken snowdrifts, but she had never soring nor winter but that have all the the flowing syllables of the old-time poem. what looked like a lake across the fam-Muddy Creek, ordinarity an began in an unusually husky voice: insignificant little stream showing now other, had received such an acception is a spot where the road divides in two after evening she shut herealf into a

rains that it was no longer recognizable. impression that the water was laughter bus about a succee. A cough has a house had exclaimed sympathetically: thing but well. Apparently the sensible lowing explosion appeals to everyone's Aifne laughed. "You don't know Corcourse was to turn back, topecially as well aware as anyone that the and Annal

"I wont go back!" she exclaimed as She went on to nine, and when ut last to get to had from school and the other vehemently as if somebody had been urg- the imbled, the room was in an uproat hours she gave to helping with ing her to do it. "I won't." She stared Even Miss Train laughed. defiantly at the water and then began to take off her storm rubbers, her stout eyes swimming with tears, waited for "it'll be Anne's dobigs." shoes and her woollen stockings.

The middle of Murch is not the season her to the water. Although it was no In the back of the room one girl had had ever been given in it-was cram-

****************************** N exciting contest was going on time to stand deliberating, she hesitated, in the Marburg High School. But after all if she did not mean to go Not only the students but the back, it was necessary for her to go forached agonizingly, and her teeth were Everyone in school had taken for chattering. She set herself to start the granted that when Anne Temple reached circulation by vigorously rubbing, and her senior year she would have every- then she put her shoes and stockings on

> "I suppose this is just a waste of time." she said to herself gloomily. "They'll

As a matter of fact they did come of again, not once but twice. Cornella did if she were to go on forever floundering Then at the beginning of Anne's through pooks as cold as ice. When at last the road to town branched off and Cornelia was a big. raw-boned left Muddy Creek to its own devices she the daughter of a farmer felt unreasonably certain that, if she had come to one more spot where the

a rival. Anne herself had . It was fortunate that Cornella always nt of sickness after two such wettings started for school early. In spite of the "That Rudd girl isn't much-to-took delay she arrived ten minutes before the she was imprisoned there till the water hour of opening. Yet she did not present "But she's as smart as lightning, just the herself-as-a conquering heroine. - Bho

Telt damp and chilled and exhausted, and she looked badly bedraggled. Moreover, she had dropped one of her books any brains," continued Kitty, whose into the water, and, though she had had discovered the fact so long before right to the title of class dunce was saved it, its appearance caused her keen anguish. Her regard for books made . Dillon medal I'd keep an eye on Cornelia her almost as uncomfortable over mistreating them as she would have felt at uceing an animal abused.

> nelia entered, and her blue eyes' bulged the outside interests that at sight of her. "Why, Cornelia Rudd!" she cried shrilly. "How did you get

"Walked," answered Cornella.

"Yes, I know, but-why, our milkman didn't get through this morning! He telephoned and said that the water was all over the road."

The girls crowded round. deep-as well."

"Isn't it over your rubbers?"

"Rubbers!" Cornella did not often laugh, but the question rather moved her

The girls laughed admiringly at the cally, but Kitty, who when a question puzzled her had a way of sticking to it ly at Cornelia's feet. "I should think don't see either." you'd be copping wet!" she exclaimed.

There was a shrick of blended horror frightened, you could come home

Looking about. Cornelia saw that the faces gazing at her were full of friendly admiration. She tried to persuade herhalf-killing herself? It wasn't worth self that it made no difference to her, but human nature is human nature, and the girl was never yet born who could To such remonstrances Anne invariably be entirely indifferent either to friendli-"I may be benten-cometimes ness or to admiration. Then at the back I think I'm going to be but it won't of the room Cornella caught sight of Anne, gazing at her with an expression All winter long Cornella had walked that she did not altogether understand. to and from school-three miles every Cornella picked up her books and moved

> into the room of the Latin teacher, Miss Train. Cornelia was the second one who bosom was called on to recite. They were reading the sixth book of Vergil; she loved -Gallantly struggling to make her tranglation not unworthy of the original, she

"Night rushes on, Acheas. We are protracting the hours with weeping. Here! directions, the -right which leads-

Cornelia stopped short, realizing that distracting and studied till midnight; the was going to oncese. As the class, and in a similar room across the hall sat waiting for her to do it smiles up- Anne was equally industrious, peared on the faces turned in her direct. One of Anne's cousins on learning the tion, There is indeed something ridicu- reason for Cornella's presence in tragic import. No one ever thinks of why, if the poor thing wants it tu, bluster and preparation and the fol- 12?"

Cornella eneezed three times while her a fair race just as I do." classmates walted smilingly, and theat. At the end of ten days fluidly Creek the took breath-and went on sneezhat was again on its good behavior, At the sixth explosion brepre sable Cornella resumed her six-mile wall Elzeles broke out all over the room. But day. Her stay at Anne's had been

Cornelia, hot and shaker, and her study. "If I win," she said to herself the tumult to subside.

for going barefoot. Cornella gasped as for order. "I think we must excuse you the Marburg High School went through she put her foot down on the muddy from anything more to-day, Cornella," them oblivious of the temperature. Then with each step she gasped she said kindly. "And after school, my one breathless June night the town's soagain. It took only four steps to bring dear, do take something for that cold!" called "Opera House"-though no opera

"H'm!" Anne had said noncommittal- the prizes.

when a dash of rain struck the windowpane. Cornelia looked up with a start. The sky was overcast again. The rain was beginning anew. And as she stared at the wet path she felt the bitterness of defeat. She was beaten, and she knew had waded over that morning, though very drop of rain made matters worse. but she could not continue to do it. As t was, she had taken a serious risk. She should have to stay at home till the swollen creek had subsided, and, though she studied as hard as she could, she should miss innumerable little aids by which Anne would profit. It needed on.y triffe to the scales. Those rainglass of the window were enough.

ing. Now even the weather had taken future was spangled thick with stars.

The rain increased as the hours went on. Cornelia dragged from class to class. the victim of unconquerable depression. The road home was likely to be under water for half a mile or more. She should be lucky if she did not have in a day. And once home, sick or well went down. Even in the time of the year when there was the least to be done on the Rudd farm to spare one of the porses to take the only daughter to school was out of the question. Cornella that now she simply accepted it. She

In the half hour's intermission allowed for luncheon. Cornelia sat at her desk and did not eat. Several girls came up Kitty was in the cloak room when Cor- to inquire about her cold, and brought her some small chocolate-coated pills, which she assured her would break a cold if taken in time. Cornelia immediately swallowed two as directed. She had reached the point where nothing seemed to matter.

When school was dismissed she remained at her desk. She made her school books into two piles, one for each arm Cornella It would be necessary to take them all home so as not to get behind in her Interest and yet a little flattered by it classes. Some one came up and stood was not the first to discover that the too. "Of course the water's over the beside her. Turning her head, she was Anne. For all the day was so dark, there was a curious light on Anne's face.

"Cornella." she said, "I don't see how you can get home, with the creek rising all the time."

"I'm' like the woodchuck that climbed cause he had to and it's the same with

"And if you get home. I don't see how you're going to get back." Cornelia made a little impatient move ment. To herself she said that it wasn't necessary for Anne to "rub it in."

"I was thinking." Anne went on, talk-"Oh, I took off my shoes and stockings ing rather fast, "that, if you could tele

> me and stay till the roads are better." Cornella stared at her. For a bright girl she had considerable difficulty in understanding a simple English sentence. "Do you mean-" she began and found

herself unable to go further. "It 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."

Cornella understood! The victory had teen in Anne's hands, but she wanted it At ten o'clock the Vergil class filed only if she could win it fairly. All at once Cornelia's heart was singing in her

> "We haven't a telephone," she answered. "but some neighbors of ours have; and they'll send word by comebody pass-

> "Then we'll go home right away. You can use our télephone."

For more than a week Cornelia was most in the Temple home. Evening

I nelia. If she wins, she wants to win in

Cornella did not stop with six encezor trembridous advantage. The time it took household tasks had all been devoted to

The examinations came as usual in the Miss Train hastened quiet by rappling hottest days of June, but two girls of

not laughed, but had eat looking at Cor- med to suffocation with the friends and nelia's convulsive struggles with grave relatives of the graduating class. A dissympathy. Kitty had explained to her tinguished visiting speaker paid complihow Cornella had reached school that ments and offered good advice, and then day. 'Water all over the road, you know, the mayor, looking unhappy, gave a little Our mile to couldn't get across, and more good advice and distributed the that girl took off her shoes and stockings diplomas. Last of all came the thing for and waded through. What do you think which a good many people in the audience were waiting, the announcement of

"The Jane Dillon Medal, carrying a The Vergil recitation was half done | ocholarship at the state college, awarded to Miss Cornella Rudd."

Cornelia's face was a chalky white. "Anne's lost it." she said to herself. But Anne, joining in the applause that swept through the hall, was pleasantly surprised to discover that she felt it. She could probably wade back as she disappointment. "Dear- old Cornella." she found herself thinking." "It would have been cruel if she hadn't won when it meant so much to her."

> When the two girls got a chance for a word, it was Anne who was radiant: "Cornella, I'd glad, I honestly am!" "It was all your doings," Cornella said

with trembling lips. And then as they kissed each other Cornella realized that the best thing that drops 'tapping maliciously against the she had won in that year in the Marburg High School was not the diploma, clutch-Cornelia had never given much ed in her warm hand, or the coveted ly got to him if he is Ecconomizeing that thought to Anne as a girl. Anne had medal and all that it implied, but Anne mutch. been only a rival, an impersonal thing, herself. Out of that generous rivalry an obstacle in the way to realizing her had grown a friendship that would per- tryed Curt Minch, for Biggamy diddent ambition. Now for the first time she manently enrich the lives of both. As show, him mutch mercy. Ant Emmy with the facilities afforded by improved felt hostile toward her. It wasn't fair! Cornella went out into the night it seem- wandered how many yrs. in Prisen the methods of cold storage, assisted in Some girls had everything without try- ed to her that like the June sky the judge give Curt Minch and pa replyed bringing the dairying industry into its

> THE QUEEN'S PARK ARENA By The Watchman

Toronto-"We make no boast as . 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 that we are making progress in the right direction, and that we are doing all this with due consideration for the rights of those who pay and the rights of those who receive. placing human values always first."

tario's Minister of Welfare and Municipal satisfied. Affairs, concluded a brilliant, two-hour effort in the Legislature last week, in which he outlined to an attentive House and equally attentive galleries, the work of his department, the problems he has had to meet and is utill meeting, and the plans and hopes for the future.

It was a masterly 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 combut the scourge, the address was as nearly non-political as it was possible to be. Mr. Croll, making his mulden 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. He hit out vigorously at the lack of cooperation on the part of a number of municipalities in the administration of relief. The minister emphasized that equalization of relief allowances throughcut Ontario was the aim of his department, and that great progress had already been made in this respect.

Dominion Government, in co-operation with the province, would take over the entire cost of relief and lift the burden from all municipalities. Ontario would be ready to adopt any new measure of this kind, he told the House. He emphasized that he did not favor direct relief, but recognized that It was a necessity. Since coming into power, the Liberal government had spent over \$5. 000,000 in wages for labor. This sun could otherwise have hone into direc-

Space is to short for anything but 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 b--done-but-of necessity the work must be slow, though progress would be steady

A feature of Mr. Croll's budget speech was that interruptions were few and there were no acrimonious debates. The Minister showed a complete grasp of the abject and his facts and figures allowed of no contradiction. Applause thundered from all sides of the Legislature when laughing at a cough. But a success, with much, why don't you just let her have; the Minister ended on the ringing noto of "human values first, always,"

EXPLAIN, PLEASE

noisy relatives were visiting uple, and happened to mention to

JOINTACHES Using WIMACAPE Brown's Drug Store RUMACAPS

SLATS DIARY BY ROBS PARQUHAR

Priday-Ant Emmy was envited to her scaces wedding witch - happened evning, but Ant Emmy had a Attact of Quinsey and cuddent go and she was very very dissapointed becuz she she has never mis# 1 of her neaces wed-Missing them.

tawk on how to emprove yure Memry down at the wimens Club tonite but he got intrinted in a-Mistery story and fergot to go to the meating.

Sunday-Pa spent a Miscrable Sunday at home today becuz in yestodys' paper when he rote about the people witch give a play last Priday night he hald. The Cats injoyed a super at the home of the superintendent of the skool. Munday-Pa got offly tired of haveing of the country.

Spare Ribs and sour krout evry, Munday so today ma sed she wood Change the Menyu a little and when oa cums home to Dinner today she had just sour Krout. Teusday-Pa was telling Ma and Ant Emmy that he beleaves old Turk Plint has guit leading a dubble Life. Emmy says the Dippreshun must of fine-

Wensday-Pa says the judge witch Wine then that, he tirned

to the pitcher show tonite on acct, of our ways in promoting the interests of my eye is a little to black after I and the dairy industry. The Dairy and Cold Pug Stevens sal a kinda fite after skool. Storage Branch has charge of this work O well I gess it just proves that the for the Dominion Department of Agri-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 My firsts in cow, but not in call; that come from inflammation of Thomas' Eclectric Oil will allay the in- My fourth's in stacks, but not in piles. flammation and in consequence the cough The whole by all must needs be done; In these words. Hon. David Croll. On- will usually stop. Try it and you will be Without it play's not half such Yun.

TURRET TOP

Cable Controlle

PISHER NO DRAFT VENTILATION

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. Cattle were placed in doings before and she hates to start in Acadia in 1632, and by 1671, according to a census of that year, the number had Baterday-Pa was supposed to give a increased to 866. Butter and cheese making were introduced by the carly Prench colonists, who had brought with them a knowledge of the art and soon were able to produce sufficient quantities for home requirements. With the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists in the years 1783-4-5, the art of butter and cheese making was extended to Upper Canada, and dairying commenced to occupy a fixed place in the commercall life !

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. A little later came the invention of the centrifugal cream separator, which tovolutionlzed work in the factories, and, together modern position. The Government of him Loose and woodent leave him go to Canada through the Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Department Thirsday-I gess I dont want to go of Trade and Commerce assists in variculture.

RIDDLE IN RHYYME

My next's in whole, but not in half: nucous membrane. 'Treatment with Dr. My third's in tears and not in smiles: Answer: Work.

REASON

"George comes from "Why, they sent him to the university,

Properity, alast is often but another name for pride. - Mrs. Sigourney.

"Yes, that's how they got so poor."

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