

The Free Press' Short Story

THE LURE OF THE WOODS

By GEORGE ETHELBERT WALSH

WITH the ink scarcely dry on his diploma...

day, seeing a man drinking from the brook...

"You fainted. The strain was too much."

"I'm all right," he grumbled, trying to sit up...

"It was sheer exhaustion, doctor," declared Sheila...

"The man glared at him and laughed roughly..."

"What a force!" declared Gilman. "The country will never grow up..."

"I know them better," was the reply. "When you've been here as long as I have..."

"The workers and their families." Mumbling vowels outside caught his ear...

"The other side of this picture is the baby. And quite as great pains are taken to assure prospective parents...

"Wash and pare potatoes of uniform size. Remove from each two portions, using an apple corer..."

"Canker paint for apple trees. Owing to the fact that the feeding of the apple tree pest, the woolly aphis...

"I'm Sheila McCormick. You're the new doctor for Piedmont, I suppose?"

"I looked a little dejectedly at him. 'Well, if you want to know, I had a bit of homesickness and I had to cry it out...'"

"A doctor's time isn't his own," murmured Gilman. "I'm not sure that I can ever go."

"The majority of babies enter this turbulent world at the quietest time, between two and five o'clock in the morning..."

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"And now you've come all this distance, you intend to go right back?"

"I wish you try it—Gilman," she said gently, smiling.

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"The special Victoria Day morning and afternoon games are staged as part of the Toronto Club all-Ontario day program with the morning game slated to start at 10.30 o'clock..."

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"We must remedy this," said Gilman, shaking his head. "Nobody can drink that water hereafter."

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"What's happened?" he demanded.

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