

## THEIR WAYSIDE FRIENDS

(© by D. J. Walsh.)

"SOME one has taken the little white house, Ted. I could hardly pass this morning for the moving van in front of it, and the children! There must be a dozen, or else they are the here-and-there kind that multiply themselves! And there was a dog that tried to chase my car off the street. Oh, Chester street will be lively enough now. I'm glad they don't live next door. Two blocks off is as close as I want that dog."

Lora Minton added an extra spoon of whipped cream to Ted's lump-o'-joy pudding. She saw a teasing laugh threatening from the twinkle of his eye. He knew her criticisms of old and she knew his delight in them.

"But I don't care, Ted," she went on. "That is the dearest little house and arranged so wonderfully inside. To have a family of harum-scarum youngsters tear it up, and after my dearest friend lived there, and was so happy so short a while, I wish some one lovable had come."

"Lovable? Aren't children that? I noticed as I came home tonight that they adore their father, at least. About five were meeting him at the corner and hanging on him wherever they could, all the way into the house."

"Healthy youngsters, but somehow a bit taggy-looking. Reminded me of what our bunch were like when mother had been away somewhere for a week. Maybe—"

Lora grew thoughtful. She hadn't seen anyone who could be identified as "mother" in the three or four times she had passed the house that day on marketing or shopping bent. Her interest in the place itself could be excused, too, since her nearest friend, Anne Saxton, had too briefly known the house as home before an untimely death. Lora had hoped that some one would come there who might in a measure replace Anne. But this wild brood! And only a stout woman with "maid" stamped all over her was in evidence to rule the young mob. Perhaps there wasn't anyone else? Any one but a father—helpless things, fathers!

Next morning when Lora drove her little car down the street as she went marketing she made a point of carefully surveying the "little white house."

A boy and girl of eight or so were swinging on the gate. The girl's brown hair was pulled back until her eyes seemed drawn upward, but her face was clean. Too clean to be natural. The boy's blouse lacked a button and he had on one brown and one black shoe. Another child of indeterminate sex came whooping around the house followed by the offending dog of the day before. A last fleeting glance at the dwelling showed no two blinds raised to the same height—sure proof to Lora's mind that a hired hand was in charge.

"Even the day after one moves the shades are evened, if nothing else. And those poor children!"

"I wonder who they are, anyway? Maybe some of us can do something."

But no one seemed able to find out anything about the newcomers, except what the children volunteered in their excursions about the neighborhood. These were enough, Lora would say, after the new dog had chased her pet cat "Mistah" so far up the porch that it took a ladder and long coaxing to persuade kitty that earth was safe for felines.

"Ted! Can't you speak to that gentleman about those awful children? The twins—Milly and Billy—broke the cellar window with their ball yesterday. And that little one, Bunny, they call her, came in with Mrs. Adams when she called here this afternoon, and Mrs. Adams thought she was some child I had adopted. She told Mrs. Adams she was going to live here, if you please. And I don't think Mrs. Adams altogether believed me when I said the little imp just played around our gate as if it were her own, although she lived two blocks down the street. I think Mrs. Adams thought I was ashamed of the child—some poor relation or something."

"Ted! Isn't there anything to do? And that housekeeper they have is so simple! Milly says 'daddy has to take what the agency sends 'cause nobody stays long at their kitchen.' I believe that!"

Lora looked hopefully at her husband. He could, sometimes, think of perfectly wonderful ways out of difficulties. And he just must do so now. The family in the "little white house" bade fair to disrupt the neighborhood. Mrs. Neville mourned the loss of her best ferns, trampled by Milly and Billy and their older and younger brothers and sister.

Mr. Parsons, who raised choice roses, vowed he would tan the hides of the little devils who destroyed a whole row of his best peas. Everybody had some grievance. And oddly enough, the worst day of the week for the "Terrors" was Sunday. Lora giggled that it was because their names was Holiday. But Ted walked home from the station with Mr. Holliday a time or two, and after that always had a word of pity for the man.

"His wife's been dead two years, Lora. And he hasn't a relative to help him out. And hired maids—what are they? He says the kids are worse with him anyway, because he hates to

make them think him a bear—when they've nobody else.

"Let's pile them into the car next Sunday—all we can, and take them out to Aunt Meda's for the day. She's brought up five boys of her own, and on that big farm they can't hurt much. I think they need a chance to just break loose, if you ask me. The city's no place for a live kid. Gosh! Lora—what would I have done when I was ten if I'd had to play up and down a street—no swimming hole, no orchard—"

Lora remembered that about the orchard the next Sunday when they had safely deposited five scrambling holidays in Aunt Meda's back yard. That good lady did not seem alarmed at the avalanche, but Lora trembled. She hoped apple trees, peach trees, the barn itself, would be standing when night came. She could not understand the older lady's cheerful acceptance of Billy's falling from his first apple tree and Milly's decoration with a couple of bee stings. And the dinner the children ate would certainly kill them.

Yet night came, and all were well and dirty. Mr. Holliday even had a relieved air and looked rested after a long talk with Aunt Meda in the grape arbor.

"You won't have so many passengers going home," smiled Aunt Meda, as Lora began to hunt for her motor coat.

"The two older boys and the twins will stay with me for a while. It was pitiful, Lora, to see how hungry they were for the things that are everyday here on the farm. Little Milly had a great bunch of weeds gathered to take home; she said they were lonesome the 'flowers in the fence corner.' That's what she is, Lora. A flower in a fence corner, and she'll turn into a weed if somebody doesn't care for her."

"Come to think, the weeds, as we call them, were flowers until they were so neglected—until nobody cared for them."

"Trouble? Mercy! What are we here for, child?"

Lora thought hard about that last speech of Aunt Meda's. Thought all the way home, while the baby "Bunny" slept in her lap. And when Ted stopped at the "little white house" to let Mr. Holliday alight with "Bunny," Lora said with a bit of a catch in her voice:

"Teddy, dear—the baby is so sound asleep, we'd better take her on home with us. And—and—I wish you'd let me borrow her a lot, Mr. Holliday. She's too little to have nobody care. We could care a lot for her—Ted and I."

And Ted heartily agreed, with a glow at his heart for the kindness of his Lord for even a stray blossom.

## Swallow Has No Peer as Master of Flight

The swallows and swifts may be said to be the only small birds in the gull division; and they have gifts very nearly peculiar to themselves. The body and skeleton have been lightened by an elaborate apparatus of air sacs, as if nature were striving to produce a craft lighter than air, a tiny airship.

This form of adaptation, common in some degree to many birds, has reached its highest development in the swallows, and, accompanied by a wing of considerable length and a tail that is both rudder and plane, it gives them an ease and grace quite their own.

They can glide so low as just to dip their wings in the cool water. They can turn and twist with a smoothness that hides the sharpness of the angle. The upper air or lower air is all the same to them. They are so conscious of their mastery that, tender though they are in beak and body and claw, they will chase and mob any enemy.

I have many times watched them compel the retreat of a cat by driving at him so close as, you would swear, to touch his ears. The cat did not so much as attempt to strike, and soon retired utterly cowed. We have all seen them mobbing birds of prey and curvetting round them, in repeated arcs, having no trouble to keep pace, though they travel many times the distance.

The point has been made by Oliver Wendell Holmes in a charming, if rather elaborate, metaphor, in which he compared their excursions with the thoughts of a nimble-witted listener to a slow preacher. He could wander pleasantly in this direction and that, yet be sure of keeping the thread of the preacher's journey when he might wish to return.—Sir W. Beach Thomas in the Atlantic Monthly.

## Records Earth's Movement

The apparatus in the Academy of Sciences in Washington that illustrates the movement of the earth is a Foucault pendulum. Foucault, a French scientist, explained the fact of the rotation of the earth by hanging a heavy ball by a fine wire from the dome of the Pantheon in Paris. This pendulum was set swinging in a certain direction, but gradually the direction of the swing appeared to change, as indicated by marks made upon the floor. As no force whatever had acted upon the pendulum, it was evident that the whole earth was turning around.

## Phase of Life

As the ice upon the mountain, when the warm breath of the summer's sun breathes upon it, melts, and divides into drops, each of which reflects an image of the sun, so life, in the smile of God's love, divides itself into separate forms, each bearing in it and reflecting an image of God's love.—Longfellow.

## The KITCHEN CABINET

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The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight;  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night.  
—Longfellow.

### WHOLESGOME GOOD THINGS

Now that fresh eggs are plentiful, we enjoy all the tasty dishes which may be prepared from them.

**Mexican Scrambled Eggs.**—Roast one dozen fresh green peppers, remove the skin and seeds and chop, then boil in a very little water until tender; season well with butter. Beat six eggs.

add seasoning and the peppers and cook for a moment in a little butter.

**Spanish Meat Dish.**—Arrange a layer of thinly sliced potatoes in a well buttered baking dish, add a thinly sliced onion, over this a layer of sliced cold roast beef, steak or hamburger. Cover with a cupful or two of thick tomato and place in the oven to bake; when ready to serve garnish with two or three tablespoonfuls of cooked peas over the top.

**Mexican Sauce.**—Cook one onion finely chopped in two tablespoonfuls of butter for five minutes. Add one red and one green pepper, one clove of garlic, each finely chopped; add two tomatoes peeled and chopped. Cook fifteen minutes, add one teaspoonful of Worcestershire sauce, a few dashes of celery salt and salt to taste.

For Sunday night supper a bowl of popcorn and milk is delicious. It may be ground if preferred.

**Popcorn Biscuit.**—Sift four teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one teaspoonful of salt, the same of sugar, one cupful of wheat flour, one-half cupful of corn flour, four tablespoonfuls of shortening and one cupful of freshly ground corn. Add enough milk to make a mixture to roll out. Cut into rounds and bake on a hot griddle, turning when one side is brown to brown on the other. They may be baked in the oven if preferred. This recipe makes one dozen biscuits.

**Popcorn Soup.**—To one quart of milk brought to the scalding point add two tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour well cooked together. Add one cupful of finely ground popcorn and serve garnished with a spoonful of freshly popped whole kernels.

**Stuffed Onions.**—Prepare as many onions as there are persons to serve. Parboil until tender but unbroken. Drain, remove the centers and mix with butter, chopped ham and seasoning, a little cream and the yolk of an egg. Fill the onions with this mixture and place in deep dish and bake, basting with cream during the baking. Cook covered until nearly done, then remove the cover and put a spoonful of well buttered crumbs on the top to brown.

**Food We Like.**  
If the turkey is not at hand, any fowl may be used for the following sandwiches:

**Turkey Sandwiches.**—Chop fine three heads of crisp celery. Take three cupfuls of cold cooked turkey from the breast, or light meat. Blanch and shred one and one-half cupfuls of almonds. Mix all lightly together, season with salt and pepper and moisten with mayonnaise. Cut thin slices of white bread and spread with pimento butter. Spread half the slices with a thick layer of the mixture and the remaining slices with crisp lettuce, spread with mayonnaise. Put together in pairs, press edges together and cut into three-inch strips. Garnish each sandwich with stars cut from pimentoes. At the point of the star place a tiny pearl onion.

**Tea Sandwiches.**—Spread thin unsweetened wafer crackers with quince, orange marmalade, or any fruit jam. Set another wafer over the one spread with fruit and arrange in a dainty basket or a plate covered with a lace paper doily. Serve with tea, cocoa or chocolate.

**Orange Meringue Pudding.**—Slice three oranges in a pudding dish, sprinkle with sugar to taste. Make a custard from the yolks of three eggs, one tablespoonful of cornstarch, one-fourth of a cupful of sugar, salt, vanilla and one cupful of milk. Cook in a double boiler until smooth and well cooked, then cool and pour over the oranges. Beat the whites of the eggs until stiff, add one tablespoonful of orange juice and one tablespoonful of sugar. Heap lightly on the pudding and set into the oven to brown the meringue.

**Banana Cream Pie.**—Bake a rich pastry shell, place on a chop plate and fill with sliced bananas; over this spread sweetened and flavored whipped cream.

**Roller Jelly Cake.**—Beat three eggs until light, add one cupful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of cold water, a pinch of salt, stir in one cupful of flour sifted with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, adding the flour gradually. Bake in a dripping pan well greased. Turn out on a cloth wrung out of cold water, spread with jelly and roll; sprinkle with powdered sugar.

*Nellie Maxwell*

## Posies to Adorn Frocks and Suits

### Feather and Fabric Flowers Add Bright Touches to the New Outfit.

If fashion predictions be true—and they usually are when they come from Paris—the flower boutonniere is to be seen on the smartest spring frocks and suits. For every type of dress there is some floral decoration. All sorts of materials have been utilized to produce perky little bouquets, large shaggy carnations, floppy roses, graceful orchids and important looking gardenias and roses. Added to the fabric collection is the feather family, and, due to their unusually successful response to dyeing, the results are delightfully realistic. Flowers are copied almost exactly, both as to color and contour, and the rich softness of the petals is well displayed by the texture of the feathers. Field flowers are grouped in twos and threes for boutonnières to adorn a tailored suit or sports outfit. Gardenias in white or pastel shades, with feather foliage, supply the necessary touch of color to the afternoon frock of crepe or chiffon. Large fluffy pompons with foliage and extra sprays, orchids and wild roses with trailing stems naturally belong to the evening wardrobe. With gay little printed dresses, either as a shoulder or sash trimming, there are bunches of field flowers, hardy roses with stem and buds, daisies, pansies and all the rest. Of smaller flowers, the garland is used in place of a belt, or across the front of a frock to give the suggestion of a waistline.

Umbrellas, too, appear to have the spring's tendencies in colors. Plaids, striped borders and gay color combinations are taking the place of the somber tones seen during the wintry days. Sizes, too, are changing, for the short handle is no longer considered an asset but a great inconvenience. As a result, one house has brought out an umbrella with a fold-over handle which unscuffs but has an extra metal band that prevents it from becoming detached from the main rod. The handle is shown in several shapes.

Gloves, besides being an everyday necessity and an indication in many instances of a woman's taste and preferences in dress, are becoming involved in the all-perplexing color problem. Despite what has been said regarding gray, the beige and tan tones predominate, both from the standpoint of sale and smartness. In the case of gloves and stockings it is being whispered that the determining factor is what is now called skin tones. For every-day wear and especially with sports clothes there are two styles, the slip-on and the one-clasp glove, with or without cuff. A smart slip-on model is shown with hand-sewn seams in a contrasting color, and a one-clasp glove with binding in a darker shade.

Hardly a dress is shown at the moment—remember that French models are being spoken of—without some suggestion of a belt. In most cases of the same material, nevertheless, quite frequently it is of different color or material. It is well for those who have a penchant for making or remodeling their own frocks to consider the use of different kinds of belts. Width does not govern style, for belts appear less than an inch wide and up to five inches in width.

## This Handsome Outfit Is Chic for Spring



The tailor for spring wear is stronger this season than ever. Tailored in masculine severity, many of these new suits have vests to adorn them in real mannish fashion. This smart tailor is worn by Pauline Starke in "Women Love Diamonds," her latest production. It is of navy cloth, with a double-breasted vest of white broadcloth. A white fox scarf and a black turban complete the outfit.

## Charming Tennis Outfit Worn by "Movie" Actress



This beautiful tennis outfit which May McAvoy, "movie" star, wears in her latest production, "Matinee Ladies," consists of an accordion plaited white crepe skirt with a green border, a tailored white crepe blouse, and a sleeveless jacket made of green knitted silk.

## Bags and Shoes Are in Spring Ensemble Picture

With color scheme and harmony playing so important a role in the assembling of accessories, designers are bringing out new shades in leathers for handbags. The two leathers most in evidence are ostrich and lizard. In lizard the pastel tints are preferred, for they blend in well with the neutral tones of the original coloring of the skins.

Ostrich is dyed in tones of wood rose, beige, gray, red, green and dark brown. In the tan and brown tones alligator to match is used for frame-work, strap handles and in similar ways.

The lizard bags are chiefly shown in medium sizes, in preference to those of large proportions, and include flat envelopes, melon-shaped pouches and pouches that are almost square. Shipped tops, plaited sides and overlapping sections furnish new details in design. In all instances these lizard bags are mounted on self-covered frames. Color contrast is often achieved by having the clasp in a color to emphasize that of the bag. The color tones include rose shades, greens, blues, yellows, reds and orange; and if these bags are carried when a gay little printed frock is worn with lizard shoes, the color ensemble is especially charming. Gay colored silks line the bags in tones to harmonize with the leather.

## Honey Shade Flattering to Blond and Brunette

At the openings of the haute couture of Paris it was evident that there would be little change in silks. Much crepe de chine and chiffon is seen and many printed silks in the small designs similar to those shown in men's neckwear. For evening both chiffon and satin are used in almost equal ratio.

A charming fashion, that will evidently increase in popularity as the season advances, is the wearing of afternoon frocks of printed silk under simple straight coats of plain silk or wool, lined with the same silk. Many small dotted prints are features in the honey crepe de chine and georgettes that make such successful models.

The satin frock for evening is unquestionably one of the most important of the new spring modes, and its prestige is increased by the fact that in a number of instances it is in the new fashionable shade of honey, a pale color that is flattering to blond and brunette alike. Other frocks are evidence of the importance of black, and in several cases touches of honey color give new distinction to the dress of black satin.

## Soft Wools Are Used; Braids Trim New Coats

New coats brought out for spring reflect in line, details and color the salient points of the new mode. Materials in almost every instance tend toward the new soft wools, although a number of the smartest coats are of heavy satin in black or blond tones and in ribbed silk. Much interest attaches to the use of furs that are a bit different. Not that they are new—but that by treatment and the use of dyes they have been given a different aspect.

Many of the smartest straight-line coats of black kasha are trimmed with silky monkey fur and deftly employed in metal threads in tiny conventional motifs. Others follow the new composite mode in using souché braid in varied shadings, that tones in with the shade of the materials.



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## Forest Fires in France

France has little forest land, and the serious losses last year from forest fires have created great concern. During the year there were 130 serious fires and the burned areas aggregated sixty square miles. The monetary loss is estimated at 16,000,000 francs.

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