

## FOUND A MOTHER FOR HIS BROOD

By FANNIE HURST

(By McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)  
(W.N.U. Service.)

STANLEY WICKERSHAM was one of those widowers, youngish, well-to-do, well set up, over whom mothers with marriageable daughters, and the daughters themselves sighed, in spite of the fact that Wickersham was the father of four children (one of them already beginning in his father's business), the others scarcely more than tots.

After the death of his wife, Wickersham broke up the beautiful home they had occupied during the period of a happy marriage, and moved with his orphaned family to a large and comfortable suite in a family hotel, where he installed two governesses and a maid to look after the two little boys, aged seven and eight, and a baby still crawling.

About once or twice a week, as a treat to his children, Wickersham dined with his family down in the public dining room. The youngsters loved this, never seeming to tire of the sense of novelty afforded them by the bright lights, music and gaiety of the hotel restaurant. The eldest boy, Jonathan, also took part in these occasions. He was a sleek young fellow, well set up, vigorous, just out of college. The two men, father and son, were a presentable pair.

Sympathetic dowagers and marriageable daughters and widows, too, looked with tender eyes upon the picture of this little family. The gray-haired, handsome and rather tired-looking father, his good looking twenty-year-old son, the three lovely children and the governesses. A prosperous type of family, bereft of the grace of a woman at its head. There was something ineffably pathetic about the little boys and the prattling baby, to say nothing of the eldest boy and the handsome widower.

Wickersham was a meticulous parent, that is, he never lost sight of the fact that his children, each and every one of them, were entities unto themselves, and as such, deserved his personal consideration. He was never too tired, too hurried, too harassed with his large business interests, to listen as specifically and as interestedly to the tribulations of his little girl, for instance, as he was to lend serious attention to an important business complication. The affairs of his adult son he heeded with a careful consideration that was not so much father and child, as man to man. The young Jonathan did not hesitate to confide in his father's affairs of the heart, of the soul, of the mind, and of the spirit. Wickersham the elder had succeeded in establishing between himself and his boy an ideal camaraderie.

It was this characteristic of the little family which used to excite the interest and admiration of the occupants of the family-hotel on those occasions when the Wickershams dined in a group in the public dining room; the little boys seeming quaintly precocious, conversing so seriously with their father, who in turn listened, replied, debated and discussed. Jonathan Wickersham had a way of talking to his father, as if he were some one with whom he was on amiable and rather reserved terms. There was absolutely no family bickering; no undue intimacies; no sharp reproaches.

Except for the fundamental fact that it was a family without a wife and a mother at its head, here was an ideal brood.

It seemed strange, as the years moved on, that a man of Wickersham's social and financial importance had not remarried. The dowagers wagged among themselves over this fact and the marriageable daughters and the marriageable widows yearned. It was along about the time that the baby was four years old, that a Miss Felice Daly and her mother moved to the hotel, and as fortune would have it, occupied a small table adjoining that occupied by the Wickershams.

An acquaintance was struck up in much the fashion that hotel acquaintances occur, and it came about gradually that young Wickersham and the brunette and quite demurely lovely Felice, began a friendship.

There was nothing unusual in that, however. Young Jonathan was at that period of his life when his heart responded more quickly than his mind. His fickleness was a standing joke between him and his father. Girls had come into his young life and girls had gone out of it again. More than once he had poured forth what seemed to him the pangs of a love affair which was to be the final and outstanding one in his life, and more than once had confessed to his father that the flame had flickered and died.

With Felice it was different only to this extent. She was a girl of unusual sensitiveness, combined with a quiet beauty also that made her seem a creature under glass, as it were. She was the sort of girl who had been educated in a French convent and had lived abroad with her mother for the greater part of her life. The American "flapper" was a new and astonishing creature to her. She had none of her technique, none of her characteristics. As Jonathan confided to his father, there was something of a lily about

Felice, so aloof she was, so calm, so white, so patient. The Wickersham children adored her, clamored for her to join them at table and at their games.

No, Felice was not quite the run-of-the-mill type of girl so far as Jonathan was concerned. She puzzled him, she quieted him, she was, as he put it to Wickersham, a sedative. It was this quality in the girl that seemed to fascinate the boy most. The same age as Jonathan, she had nevertheless, an adult manner with him. She let his youthful enthusiasms beat up around her like a plunging surf; she listened quietly and just as quietly, advised. There was nothing reckless, impulsive, or of the juvenile about Felice. Whether he was in love with her or not, certainly she had inspired in Jonathan something of awe.

For the first time the boy was a bit hesitant in confiding in his father; not so much because he feared lack of sympathy; on the contrary, Felice was probably closer to his father's ideal for him than any girl Jonathan had yet known. But the difficulty was that Jonathan was too confused to gather his thoughts. For a little while, it had seemed to him that here, at last, was the "grand passion." Felice was the sort of girl to shed a quiet and pearly kind of radiance over the lives of those about her. Her beautiful old mother, who wore precious lace and cameos, was part of the rare tranquility and breeding that was Felice's background.

The trouble with Jonathan was, that as he came to see more and more of Felice, he found himself admiring her more than he loved her.

It was finally Wickersham who approached his son about the matter of Felice, as the two young people came more and more to go about together. "Jonathan, where do you stand with Felice?"

"Hang it, father, I wish I knew." "It's about time you did, son. You can't string along with a girl like Felice, as you have with the others."

"I understand that, father. You're right. This much I know: I admire her more than any girl I have even known."

"You love her?" "If I knew, I wouldn't be dangling along this way."

"It's up to you to find out pretty soon."

"You're right, father." The weeks marched on. It was Wickersham who again approached his son.

"I don't want to seem to barge in, son, but I won't have things go on with Felice in this way."

"You mean it's up to me to decide?" "Exactly."

"You're right. My uncertainty has decided me. You can't love a girl the way I feel I have to love a girl in order to marry her, and dilly-dally this way. You can count it being off with Felice, father."

There continued to be something troubled about Wickersham. That same night he approached Felice.

"Where do you stand with my son, Felice?" he asked her outright.

"I feel toward him," she said, looking Wickersham squarely in the eye, "as a mother."

"Will you be mother to him, Felice?" he said, meeting her squarely in the eye.

There is a fair, lily-like personality at the head of the Wickersham family now.

### Predicts Big Changes in Weather Forecasting

Evidence which challenges the basic theory of meteorology, on which the art of forecasting is based, is presented by Secretary C. G. Abbot of the Smithsonian Institution.

Meteorologists have hitherto believed that weather (which is defined as the departures from regularity in climate) depends principally on the irregularities of the earth's surface, and, like rough water in a stream over a rocky bed, is essentially unpredictable for any considerable time in advance.

Doctor Abbot presents evidence to show "that weather, on the contrary, is caused chiefly by the frequent intermissions of actual changes of the emission of radiation within the sun itself." These changes in solar radiation are periodic and promise to be predicted long in advance.

Weather appears to respond directly to them, although there are modifications due to local conditions. The net conclusion is that long range weather forecasting is possible and even probable.

The evidence from which Doctor Abbot draws these momentous conclusions consists of the daily measurements of solar radiation made by the observatory of the Smithsonian Institution at Montezuma, Chile, from 1921 to the present.

From this great number of observations Doctor Abbot has selected 111 instances in which the solar constant showed a continuous rise for five consecutive days, and 100 instances in which the solar constant showed a continuous fall for five consecutive days. He then plotted the mean temperature and barometric pressure at Washington, D. C., for the periods associated with these rises and falls of the solar constant.

In every instance the curves of temperature and barometric pressure corresponding respectively to rising and to falling solar radiation showed a marked opposition to each other. That is, when the sun's radiation increased, the temperature and barometric pressure at Washington pursued an opposite course to that which they followed after falling radiation.

## Hay Making Now Modern Science

### Curing in Windrow Saves Labor Required for Cocking.

Even in haying, the world keeps moving and one might as well keep with it, is the opinion of H. B. Hartwig of the New York State College of Agriculture, who says that there is no need for the present-day farmer to make hay the way his grandfather did.

Many successful farmers have found that to cure hay in the windrow saves from 10 to 40 per cent of the labor required by cocking. This saving makes it possible to get more hay in between rains. Swath-curing clover or alfalfa sacrifices too many leaves and bleaches the hay too much.

### Method of Hay Making.

Professor Hartwig recommends the following method of hay-making. Cut only after the dew or rain is off. Hay dries more quickly while standing, and molds that make hay dusty do not get started. Allow the hay to wilt in the swath but do not allow wilting to continue until raking will knock off the leaves. One-half hour to two hours of bright sunshine should be plenty. Next put it in a loose windrow with a side-delivery rake. The better side-delivery rake is the left-hand type, because when driven (after the first round) in the same direction in which the mower goes, the largest number of stems are turned out and the most leaves turned in where they will not dry too rapidly and shatter off. Remember that the leaves carry about 60 per cent of the protein. The right-hand rake may be used if the hay is cut in lands. Begin at the middle with the right-hand rake and work in a direction opposite to the course of the mower.

### Give Half-Turn.

When the hay in the upper portion of the windrow is cured, give the windrow a half-turn with the outer end of the side-delivery rake, so as to bring up for curing that portion which was near the ground. In case of rains repeat this procedure as often as is necessary. Avoid the tender to save leaves. The hay loader may be used to take the hay up when it is well cured. Be sure that the hay carries no moisture in the form of rain or dew. Such moisture may cause spontaneous combustion.

### Small Pigs Susceptible to Worm Infestation

Roundworms live in the small intestines of infested pigs. The females produce millions of minute eggs, which are scattered over the ground with the manure. These eggs are swallowed by young pigs, and the small worms hatch out in the intestines; they then pass to the liver through blood vessels, then to the heart and from there to the lungs, where they become much larger. After a time they work their way up to the throat and then are swallowed and pass down to the small intestine. This curious journey requires about ten days, and after that the worms grow to maturity in the intestine, in about two months. Small pigs are much more susceptible to infestation with worms than are older ones, and require special protection for about four months. Sanitary measures are necessary to keep out infestation of roundworms.

### Apple Tree Borer Does Much Harm in Orchards

It is rare, indeed, that a young orchard comes into bearing without considerable loss of trees due to the apple tree borer, unless the orchard is regularly and carefully inspected to locate the borers and to make possible their destruction.

Presence of borers is usually indicated by a bit of frass about the base of the tree on the ground.

Inspection every month or two through the growing season will be advisable. If you should find any borers in the orchard it may be necessary to cut along the burrow a considerable distance before the borer is found, but such injury will do less damage than the borer will if allowed to continue his work.

### Avoid Egg Eating Vice by Keeping Birds Busy

Egg eating is a vice which seldom develops among birds that are kept occupied and have proper feed and range. Often when the birds are confined owing to bad weather, they may become inactive and the trouble starts. The remedy is to get the birds on range if possible. Supply ample oyster shell and bone, deepen the litter and darken the nests. See that the rations are correct. Gather the eggs frequently for a few days. Some recommend the feeding of milk for a few days. Anything that will get the birds' attention on other matters will help remedy the situation.

### Place for Calf

It seems to be taken for granted that calves a couple of months old and up can graze a good part of their living if on good pasture. This is a mistake. A calf is not equipped to graze its living until eight or nine months. It is all right to run the calves in a shady orchard but they will grow faster if fed skim milk and grain in proper quantities and have good hay as well. Perhaps the ideal plan is to have the calves in the stable during the heat of the day.

## Increase Moisture by Summer Fallow

### Winter Wheat Is an Ideal Crop to Follow With.

(By A. L. Clapp, Extension Crops Specialist, Kansas State Agricultural College.)

Summer fallow in wheat production acts as a moisture storing measure for the following wheat crop.

Winter wheat is an ideal crop to follow fallow, for following the ground stores the moisture deeply in the soil, and the winter wheat roots have the ability to feed at least six feet deep, which is almost the possible depth of moisture storage with one year of fallow.

Summer fallow not only stores moisture but gives an opportunity for the wheat farmer to turn under the accumulation of straw and thoroughly decay it before the next crop is planted; an essential practice for maintaining soil humus and fertility.

A year of fallow will give time for some insoluble plant foods to change their form, become soluble and available to the plant. This is probably the principal reason for the hold-over effect of fallow that is indicated so clearly in experimental work at the Hays experiment station. At this station wheat on early fall listing the third year after fallow has averaged 23.9 bushels, which is 3.7 bushels more than early fall listing with continuous wheat.

### Emotional Vegetation

"I have heard of a scientist who says that vegetables have emotions." "If that's the case, those garden seeds I planted last year ought to have been ashamed of themselves."

### Some One Must

He—May I have the pleasure of the next dance?  
She—You may. I know I won't get any pleasure out of it.—Pathfinder Magazine.

### Loud Voices Weak

Although singing and speaking voices may "fill" large auditoriums, their power, in electrical terms, is insignificant.

### Preparedness in the Kitchen

No emergencies exist for the woman who is prepared to meet them.—Woman's Home Companion.

Go to a men's dinner and the food is always extremely substantial. This is why men like barbecues.

### Anemia Among Suckling Pigs Can Be Prevented

Last year the Wisconsin experiment station told us that lack of iron and copper in the sow's milk caused anemia in suckling pigs, and that feeding these two minerals in suitable compounds to the pigs would prevent the disease.

In the preliminary investigations iron and copper were fed once daily, says the Prairie Farmer. We are now told that feeding a pig 150 milligrams of iron (ferric sulphate) and 25 milligrams of copper (copper sulphate) once a week will prevent the disease. Druggists can make these solutions and tell you how much to feed to give each pig the above quantities of the required minerals.

At the Illinois station it has been found that applying a solution containing iron and copper to the teats of the sow once or twice daily will prevent the disease. A corn sirup solution made by dissolving 15.7 grams of copper sulphate in a half liter of water, slowly adding with shaking 55.6 grams of powdered ferric citrate after the solution is brought to a boil, then adding a pint of corn sirup to the mixture was found especially easy to use.

### Favor Small Container for Market Tomatoes

The profit in early tomatoes grown for market depends a great deal on the type of package the tomatoes are sold in. E. R. Lancashire says that vegetable collecting trucks in southern Ohio offered \$1.25 at the farms for 10-pound baskets of early tomatoes when 20-pound baskets were selling for \$1.50 in the Columbus market. The reasons why the smaller container sells to better advantage are: Straight sided small baskets permit packing fruits (if you grant the tomato is a fruit) of uniform size, whereas the 20-pound climax basket necessitates small ones beneath and big ones on top. Another thing, the two layers of tomatoes in the smaller basket are divided by corrugated paper, so there is less damage in hauling to market. A paper liner in the straight-sided basket will help the price, too.

### Swine Feeding Tests

In Missouri swine feeding tests last year the addition of alfalfa meal to a corn and tankage ration increased the rate and economy of gains, 11 pounds of alfalfa meal replacing approximately 32 pounds of corn and 4 pounds of tankage. Adding small amounts of cottonseed meal or linseed meal and alfalfa meal increased slightly the rate of gain and decreased the feed required per unit of gain as compared to tankage alone, but large amounts of cottonseed meal had the opposite effect.

### FARM FACTS

A 70-colony apary is equivalent to about forty acres of land in both labor and income.

Based on past experience, profit in growing cucumbers depends primarily on the control of insect and disease pests.

By using a preservative treatment of creosote practically any common woodlot tree can be made to serve as a fence post for 20 years.

Timothy may be seeded as late as the middle of September, or even later in some sections, with a fairly good chance of coming through a normal winter and producing a good crop of hay next year.

Well composted barnyard manure is one of the best fertilizers for a garden. This fertilizer is somewhat lacking in phosphorus and the addition of a phosphate fertilizer has the property of causing earlier ripening and maturity.

## Town in Mourning for Death of Killer Whale

Eden, a little fishing town in New South Wales, is in mourning because the body of a fish has been washed ashore. It was that of "Old Tom," king of the local pack of killer whales, which he ruled for more than 100 years. To the aborigines he was the reincarnation of a famous king—and to the whites he was a friend and ally. Eden's one industry is whale oil, and in the season of the whales the great mammals are driven into the almost landlocked bay by a pack of killer whales or great dolphins. The harpooners, summoned by a lookout, set out in their boats and kill the whales while the killers patrol back and forth across the entrance of the bay so that the whales cannot escape to sea. As soon as a whale is killed the killers come ashore and the harpooners feed them. The harpooners know the fish by name and sometimes amazing instances of fish sagacity are seen. "Old Tom," the leader of the pack, is dead.

### Dimes Provided Tour

Oscar S. Bodenhausen, an American, revealed in London while on a world tour, that the tour was financed on dimes he had saved for 28 years. Bodenhausen said each night he would put all the dimes he had in his pocket in a purse and each week put them on time deposit with compound interest twice a year. When he had saved \$3,250 he started on his world tour.

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