

WHEN YOUTH IS DONE

By FANNIE HURST

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IT SOMETIMES seemed to Estelle Winters that she could reckon almost to the day, when the first realizations that she had reached a specific milestone in her life had rushed over her.

It was not so much that her mirror told her that she was fading and that the jaunty-yellow of her hair was running to pallor or that her blue eyes were weakening, but there was a tolling note inside the heart of Estelle which said "youth is done," "youth is done," "youth is done."

A conspiracy of circumstances brought about this conscious termination of the golden glow that had always characterized Estelle Winters. Life had not been easy for her. Twenty years of singing in the cafes of the large cities of the Far West had exacted their tribute. Twenty years of the solitary struggle to rear in integrity and innocence, a girl-child with the beautiful name of Rosalinda, had told in strain on Estelle.

The latter she had accomplished and the latter she was willing to regard as her life work. Indeed, Rosalinda was a fair enough monument to anybody. At twenty she was like a flower, slim, lovely, fragile.

And so it was that when Rosalinda was in this early bloom, Estelle Winters, her mother, taking inventory, so to speak, of her own face, her spirit, her vitality, came so poignantly to realize that her youth was done.

The following year, Estelle, instead of flitting like a tired bird of plumage from one cafe to another, established herself quietly in a San Francisco cafe of first-rate standing as cashier.

It was a let-down, but it was a letting-down that somehow warmed and eased the tired, bruised spirit that was Estelle's. The struggle against the ever-widening crack in her voice was finished; the uneven race against the flesh of years, as it settled on her hips and shoulders, was over. Estelle could sit back quietly, now, not noticing but unnoticed, and let the years roll in.

And more than all of these, Estelle could now keep fastened more firmly, her watchful eye on Rosalinda. This girl, whom her mother yearned to protect from the disappointments that had been hers, was now also employed in the same cafe where Estelle held the throne of cashier.

Rosalinda's duties were light. At noon she arrived, attired herself in a peasant costume that enhanced her loveliness, and moved with a tray of hot rolls in among the patrons of the cafe, offering her dainties as she slid by the tables. At six o'clock Rosalinda came on duty again, and was free to leave the restaurant with her mother somewhere shortly after ten o'clock.

It meant that through all the workaday hours her mother's eyes were on her. It meant they arrived together and they departed together. It meant that whatever secret ambitions lay smoldering in the heart of Estelle for the present, at least, her plans for the future were held in abeyance. Rosalinda was literally under her mother's thumb, as well as her eye. And the girl, sweet and submissive enough at twenty, and at the same time regarding her occupation as only a stepping stone toward the thing her heart craved, submitted because of the peace she realized she was able to afford Estelle.

They were rather a pathetic pair. The husbandless Estelle, the fatherless Rosalinda. There had never been a husband. So far as Rosalinda could remember there had never been a father; just the two of them, playing their humble roles with a certain submission, and yet the younger of them with a quality of rebellion flaming in her blue eyes that had long since died down in the eyes of the older woman.

It was hard to realize, after beholding the loveliness that was Rosalinda's, that this child had kept her innocence to a degree that was perfection. At twenty she lived like a little girl. At twenty, she had never been out in the company of a man without the chaperonage of her mother.

And it had not all been clear sailing. The eyes of men veered quickly to the loveliness that was Rosalinda's. Her presence in a room made other consciences. Seated in her corner behind her cashier's desk, the eyes of Estelle were relentless in their watchfulness.

If ever a girl was protected by the bulwark of fierce loving, jealous, panther-like watchfulness, that girl was Rosalinda.

There was not a recess of the being of this girl that Estelle did not feel herself capable of understanding. As Rosalinda sometimes admitted to her mother, it was as if the older woman sensed, almost before the girl herself, the nature of her ambitions, secret desires, yearnings.

And the secret desires of Rosalinda's were not just those of the average girl becoming aware of her loveliness.

Rosalinda wanted to sing. She

wanted to cultivate a voice that was already showing a fluty resonant quality. That was why Estelle so passionately desired to save her from the wear and tear of performing in the cabarets. That was why, without the slightest sense of renunciation, Estelle was ready to fold away the days of her most garish kind of successes, for the more stable remuneration of her work behind a cashier's counter.

Estelle and her daughter were boarding for the day when Rosalinda might go abroad to prepare her voice for opera.

One night in the restaurant, a man well beyond fifty, big, irresistible as a personality, known the country over as a millionaire sportsman and art connoisseur, fastened what were frankly delighted eyes on Rosalinda.

For the first time in her life, swept by something that was stronger than she was, she arranged a rendezvous that did not include Estelle.

For the first time in her life, Rosalinda was impelled to agree to see a man without the presence of a third party—her mother.

It was not unnatural in the face of things, in fact it would have been more unnatural if it had not happened so, that the youthful and beautiful Rosalinda should finally find herself confronted with one of the emotional climaxes sure to befall a creature of her caliber.

Curious, but across the room, within her lair, Estelle Winters knew everything that was happening, just as concisely as if she were present there beside the table of the well-known figure of the sportsman-art connoisseur, Hiram Bridges.

From her lair, Estelle with her hand to her throat, saw this happening; with her eyes dilated saw this happening. What is more, she saw happening across the sweet face of Rosalinda, the first faint flush of awakening.

When Hiram Bridges left the restaurant that night, elated with his conquest of a type that was alluring to him, there confronted him in the corridor the pale, washed-out figure of a woman who caused him to stare.

"Yes, Hiram, it's who you think it is," said Estelle, a little tiredly, none of the melodrama of the moment in her manner or her voice.

"Why, it's twenty years, since—" he said stupidly.

One of those melodramatic incidents that can seem to come out of a clear sky was happening in that restaurant.

"Twenty-one years," she corrected, her glance sliding way toward the remote figure of Rosalinda. "That makes her twenty."

"Who twenty?"

"The girl you are meeting later—your daughter," said Estelle.

Rosalinda radiant, more beautiful than ever in her innocence, is studying for grand opera in Italy.

An internationally known sportsman and art connoisseur, who has never seen her since that night in the restaurant, is educating her.

Famous Danish Castle
Notwithstanding its rather remote position on the Island of Jutland in Denmark, on the banks of the Limfjord, Castle Spottrup has lured many visitors to its walls of recent years. Although its age and builders have been forgotten, it has been there for many centuries, and is one of the best double-roofed castles of Europe. Its dividing bulwark of earth on the eastern side reaches almost to the eaves of the structure, and, with its grass-clad ramparts, adds immensely to the impressive and its ancient formidable strength. It is only reserved in part and the visitor can easily visualize its ancient extent and form.

Altar Overhangs Sea
About 12 miles from Kjoze, in Denmark, is an ancient church in Hojerup, built on the famous Stevns cliff, which has been undermined by the sea. In the fourteenth century an old sea rover was threatened with disaster off Stevns cliff, and vowed should he reach land safely, he would build a church on the cliff. Fortune favored him and he fulfilled his vow and set his church on the very edge of the beetling crag, so close, indeed, that the erosion of the rock during the centuries has brought the altar actually hanging over the sea. A legend says that every New Year night the old church "moves a cockstride back from the sea."

Ancient Well Discovered
The discovery of an ancient well during excavations for the terminus of the London Tube railway extension from Finsbury park has revived stories of the notorious ghost of Sir Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex, who, according to local legend, was drowned in a well at Barnet, in 1144. Sir Geoffrey's ghost is said to haunt the district every Christmas. Frequent attempts have been made to discover this well, at the bottom of which, the legend says, is a heavy iron chest containing precious stones. At this spot is laid the scene of the murder of Lord Dalgarno in Sir Walter Scott's "Fortunes of Nigel."

Reporters to the Rescue
When Isadore Ezale, of Brooklyn, N. Y., was fined \$10 for beating his horse he tried to pay with \$5 and the horse. Magistrate Casey said his court wasn't taking any horses today, thank you, Ezale, after counting a collection of quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies, reported he was 3 cents shy of the necessary amount. Reporters broke the deadlock by presenting the required 3 cents.

Tomato Seed of Big Importance

That From Wilt-Resistant Plants Should Be Saved for Next Year.

Home gardeners who are producing wilt-resistant tomatoes will find that the seed from these plants are as good if not better than the seed obtained from outside sources, according to G. W. Fant, extension plant pathologist at the North Carolina State college.

"This is especially true if the grower will select only the heaviest bearing and most resistant plants from which to get his seed for next year's planting," he states.

Equipment Needed.

Where only a small amount of seed is to be saved, no apparatus except a small water-tight vessel is needed. The ripe tomatoes are placed in the vessel and thoroughly crushed. Sufficient water is added to cover the tomatoes and they are left over night to ferment. The next day the vessel is filled with water and the mass carefully stirred. By adding more water slowly, the skins, cores and pulp will float off and the seed sink to the bottom. The water is then drained off and the seed collected.

Mr. Fant states that seed secured from a neighbor who is growing the wilt-resistant variety will, in most cases, give better results than seed bought outside, especially of the directions for saving the seed have been followed.

Wilt-Resistant Varieties.

There are several varieties of wilt-resistant tomatoes, chief among which are the Marvona, Norduke, Marvel, and Norton. Growers who have any of these varieties planted are safe in saving the seed but the Norton and Marvel are the two that are recommended by Mr. Fant. In tests conducted throughout the state the Norton has shown a greater resistance and also produces a large yield of high quality fruit. Where growers are troubled with wilt, seed from the varieties named should be secured for next year's planting.

Factors Influencing the Keeping Fruit Quality

A new bulletin entitled, "Some Factors Influencing the Keeping Quality of Fruits in Transit," has been released by the college of agriculture, University of Illinois, Urbana. According to results of tests conducted by the experiment station of the college, as reported in this bulletin, damaged fruit, now a heavy drain on the profits of Illinois fruit growers, could very largely be prevented by proper precautions in picking, handling, grading and packing.

Three phases of the problem were investigated by the college workers in attempting to work out ways whereby Illinois growers could protect their profits. They compared the careful with the rough handling of strawberries, summer apples and peaches; the prompt with delayed loading of these same three commodities, and studied the use of different types of packages for strawberries and peaches.

Best Time for Cutting Corn Crop for Silage

A recent circular issued by the Kansas experiment station brings out some points on the making of silage which are of vital importance to every farmer who has a silo to fill, especially the man who is filling one for the first time. The circular points out the fact that it is desirable to cut the crop for the silo in a very green condition, before the ear and stalks had matured, and a very sour silage, high in moisture, was obtained. Of late years the tendency has been to allow the corn crop to stand until more mature. The proper time to cut corn for the silo is about a week or ten days before it is ready to put up in the shock; the ear should be well denting and the lower leaves on the stalk dry, but the stalk itself still full of sap.

Roadside Gumption Is Needed for Marketing

The path to success in roadside marketing is really so plain that it is singular how it can ever be missed. Here are the half-dozen requirements: Absolutely fresh produce. Variety and good quality. No delays—immediate service. Courtesy on every sale, however small. Prices higher than wholesale, lower than retail. If possible, a high-profile sideline. That is all there is to it, except of course that your stand must be on a highway that is traveled, or can be traveled. Customers will not plow through mud.

Attractive signs help. Parking space off the highway is good, and in some states is compulsory.

Budding Cherries

Long-time tests carried on in the orchards of the New York state experiment station at Geneva have proved to the satisfaction of the station fruit men that Mazzard rootstocks are far superior to the Mahaleb rootstocks so commonly used in the budding of cherries. More vigorous and healthier trees and a longer lived and more productive orchard will be obtained with trees budded on Mazzard stocks, it is said, especially in the case of sweet cherries.

Best Curing Process Needed for Alfalfa

Allow It to Wilt in Swath for Six Hours.

Number 1 alfalfa hay must be 60 per cent green color, and it must be 40 per cent leaves. That proportion is what the haymaker wants after he has cut his crop.

If the hay is cut down on a bright day and left in the swath it cures rapidly, bleaches, and becomes so brittle that the leaves shatter. Good hay cannot be made with such rapid curing. If the hay is cut down and raked immediately into a swath it cures so slowly that it is almost sure to get wet.

"The most practical way of putting-up quality hay is to cut it down and allow it to wilt in the swath for four to six hours and then rake into a loose, open windrow," recommends L. E. Willoughby, extension alfalfa specialist, Kansas State Agricultural college. "Usually alfalfa hay cut in the morning can be raked by afternoon and put into the stack the following day providing the weather is in our favor."

Willoughby points out that if hay is put into the windrow in a wilted condition and a rain does come, it may be turned in the windrow and allowed to finish curing with only a small amount of damage. He says that he has known cases where fairly good hay has been made after being rained on two or three times and turned after each rain.

Home-Grown Grain Used in Feeding Mixture

It is generally considered that a dairy cow that is fed 30 pounds of corn silage and 10 to 12 pounds of alfalfa, needs a grain mixture carrying 90 per cent of farm grown grains and 10 per cent of a high protein concentrate, whereas when timothy hay is fed in place of alfalfa the grain mixture should contain about 50 per cent of a high protein concentrate and 50 per cent of one or more of the home grown grains.

Thus, when a cow requires 10 pounds of grain a day, and timothy instead of alfalfa constitutes the dry roughage of the ration, only five pounds of home grown grain can be used while the other five pounds must be purchased at around two and a half to three cents a pound. On the other hand, when alfalfa constitutes the dry roughage of the ration, nine pounds of home grown grain can be used in the grain mixture with only one pound of protein concentrate having to be purchased.

Profitable Utilization of Dairy By-Products

Profitable utilization of milk by-products is now more important than usual, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. O. E. Reed, chief of the bureau of dairy industry, says that cottage cheese offers a dairy-products plant a profitable outlet for its skim milk. The bureau has, by experimental work both in the laboratory and on a commercial scale, demonstrated a method of making the low-acid rennet-type of cottage cheese which has consistently produced excellent results. A mimeographed circular which tells how to make this type of cottage cheese may be obtained free by writing to the Bureau of Dairy Industry, Washington, D. C.

FARM NOTES

The most feeding value will be obtained this year by putting the corn crop in the silo.

Cows need from three to four pounds of water for each pound of milk they give.

Wool should be stored in a clean, dry place until it is sold. It should never be stored in a basement.

Spring calves or calves born in late winter should be kept in the barn during the summer if they are to make proper growth.

Real co-operation is needed if forests are to be protected against their greatest enemy, fire. The easiest time to fight fire is before it starts.

Magnesium arsenate is considered the best control spray for the Mexican bean beetle. If it cannot be obtained, calcium arsenate may be used successfully.

In the event that crops for silo cease to grow for lack of moisture, they should be allowed to stand in the field as long as they will be benefited by a rain.

Succession plantings permit the gardener to keep the soil in use and to grow a steady supply of vegetables from the land. Leafy plants should follow root crops, and vice versa.

Sweet clover, seeded alone early in the spring on good land which is adapted to it, may make good grazing after midsummer, say Pennsylvania State college farm crops specialists.

The striped cucumber beetle can be controlled by spraying with two pounds of lead arsenate in 50 gallons of bordeaux mixture. Young plants can be protected with cones made of fly-screening.

Virtue in Many Things One Cannot Understand

"Science," said a traveler, "has at last come to recognize that there is truth in spiritualism, occultism, clairvoyance and many other old, magical, eastern things that we used to laugh at."

"Once in Peru a friend of mine fell sick. The best doctors could do nothing for him, and one day his Indian servant brought to his bedside an Indian medicine man."

"The Peruvian professor in charge of the case laughed at the medicine man."

"You know nothing about medicine. You're a bluff," he said. "The medicine man opened his quaint sack, took a small dried leaf from it and handed it to the famous Lima doctor. 'Smell that,' he said calmly.

"The doctor smelt it and his nose began to bleed. It bled and bled. Nothing would stop it. Then the Indian took another dried leaf out. 'Now smell that.' And at once the bleeding was over.

"After this proof of his skill the Indian medicine man was allowed to prescribe for my dying friend. By Jove, he cured him in two days."

Men Also Called "Gossips"

After traveling extensively in the British Isles, where he observed the conversations of men and women, Justice Alfred H. Coultter returned to Belfast, Ireland, recently, and declared that he had learned that men are as great gossips as women. In a lecture he said that it was a mistake to think that only women gossiped, for he had found men who could "talk the heads off women."

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Trees for Iceland
Treeless Iceland is being made into wooded fastnesses through the wholesale transplanting of trees that are secured from the northern parts of Canada. The experiment, tried some time ago, has proved successful and the Canadian trees that have been shipped so far have been warmly appreciated and carefully attended and found to be ideal for the climate. Spruce, pine, tamarack and balsam are the varieties which have proven most successful. The ability to secure wood will mean much to the inhabitants of the island, and efforts

are being made to secure funds for the purpose from humanitarians of other countries.

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