

A Christmas Journey

A True Story for Grown-Ups
By Mary Graham Donner

HE had no children. At Christmas time she especially seemed to feel the need of them. It seemed as though every time she turned around she should see a daughter or a son or a small chubby child of her own—one of those six-

had dreamed of and who had never stepped outside of her dreams. Yes! She, Gertrude Harding, was a "born mother" to whom no children had been born.

But this year she had forgotten something most important to be done. And it was only several days before Christmas.

She went down town, made her purchase after quite a delay and left the shop.

Outside were three small children, their faces close against the window pane, their eyes gleaming, their small ill-clad bodies tense and quivering with emotion.

"Aw, gee, look at it stop at the stations! There, she's off the track now! No, she ain't. She's back on again."

"The second child was reading a sign. 'They says that in this here shop that it's the land where the dreams of children come true. D'ye suppose they's kiddin'?'"

The third child, a little girl, who was clutching what once had been a doll was looking at one in the shop's window.

"If I could jes' touch her hair," she sighed.

"Would you like to go inside the shop?" Gertrude Harding asked the children.

They looked at her abruptly. "D'ya mean it?"

And through the shop, straight to the children's department she took them.

It was a revelation to her to realize the joy that was derived by these children from the intimate contact with toys they knew they could never own.

They had gone inside one of the big shops and had been treated as well as anybody; they had not been afraid. They had looked to their heart's content.

"It's true—what they's said," the children agreed afterward, "in there is the land all right, where children's dreams come true." For the reality of Fairyland had been expressed by the marvelous and magical toys and games and gay decorations of the Christmas shop.

If, Gertrude Harding told herself afterward, these children had so loved a trip into the gawdy of a children's shop, were there not others who would like to journey forth into the world of toys, too?

She thought it over. And did not stop there. She rang up a certain number and asked for the matron.

"You're the matron of the Children's hospital, aren't you? Well, I wondered if any of your children would care to go with me tomorrow and take a trip through the children's toy shops? They're most attractively fixed up this year and some of them have special attractions, a Santa Claus and many other wondrous features!"

So Gertrude Harding called for the children. There were 15 who were able to go and of that 15 the majority were motherless.

Such an afternoon as Gertrude Harding had. And such an afternoon as the children had.

Those in the shops seemed especially anxious to do what they could for the children who were so obviously from a home or hospital. The mechanical toys even seemed to put more spirit into their performances Gertrude Harding thought.

As they were coming home several little hands found their way into both of Gertrude Harding's hands. One clutched a little finger, another had hold of her thumb; so it went.

"Mrs., one of them ventured, 'let's pretend we're all children from a kindergarten and that you're our teacher. Don't let's pretend we're from a hospital, eh?'"

"Yes, let's pretend that," she answered them. "Or how would it do to pretend that I was your mother and that you were all my children?"

"Would you—honest—would you pretend that?" one asked and the others looked at her eagerly, hoping, hoping, hoping she would not refuse.

nothing of. They must just let us go along and share our secret together, eh?"

And then the clown beat upon his drum and the children all marched stiffly behind.

When a magnificent Santa Claus asked the children to sing with him and the voices of the hospitalized children sang out with the rest Gertrude Harding felt herself swelling with pride.

Later when Santa Claus perceived that one of the hospitalized children had an unusually lovely voice he asked him to sing alone.

And there in the shop he sang, sang with the thrill of happiness that a bird sings with when first he feels the warmth and sweet fragrance of the spring.

He had never been asked to sing before like this—in a big shop where people were and where people listened to him, not because he was being visited in a hospital and must do his part to entertain the visitors, but because somehow or other they liked his voice.

It rang out true and strong. He shifted the crutch which he had never been without and which he would never be without to the end of his days, and then he was asked to sing an encore.

His face was flushed with the pleasure of doing something which was like it in this big outside world.

He looked at Santa Claus and beamed.

He had already sung a popular song which he had learned from the squeaking talking machine which someone had given the hospital when it was no longer fit for the home, and now he thought he would sing something better. Somehow he felt it would be proper, and vaguely perhaps he felt it would show a gratitude for Christmas that went deeper. Dimly he thought these things.

Someone had taught them a hymn in the hospital, a hymn which he had always loved. It made one feel better, stronger, happier somehow. It was a very glorious hymn he had always thought.

And he sang:

"It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold;
Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King,
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing."

Right to the end of the hymn he sang and the people thanked him and Santa Claus told him it had been lovely and gave him a man-like clap on the back.

Gertrude Harding had felt a lump in her throat and had smiled with eyes that were misty.

So the angels did bend near the earth—even in these days—and even over hospitals where crippled and ill children were. It was the humans, not the angels, who forgot and who went through life not thinking!

Back to the hospital she took the children late, late that afternoon. The hospital was in semi-darkness. Children who had been too recently operated upon or who could not leave their beds sat up as best they could to hear of the news of the outside world.

Little white-clad figures listened to the glowing accounts brought to them of the great life which went on beyond the ward.

And for every little child who had to stay in the hospital, Gertrude Harding had brought a small present, only a trifling one, but a remembrance from the great world.

Then the hospital rules which had been lifted for a few minutes after the ones who had been out so late had come back, were in order again, and there was silence in the ward, and soon there would come sleep.

When she got home that evening, tired but very, very happy, she said to herself:

"There are born mothers, yes! And there are born children, too! Children who need to be loved as much as women who need children to love. And though there is a difference between those of one's very own, and those who are not, it seems as though no one who is a 'born mother' should go through life, walking blindly by the many motherless children.

"For every childless mother there is a motherless child to whom one can give some of the love and interest and the pride which would otherwise go to waste."

In her sleep she seemed to hear the Christmas carol which the hospital had had sung and she knew what had been revealed to her—

She had traveled into the land of children at Christmas time and had smiled the smile that can be smiled when one gets a look at the heart of a child!

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FORDNEY BILL ON HARD ROAD

Emergency Tariff Act to Protect U. S. Farmers Meets With Stiff Opposition.

SENATE TAKES TIME

Minority Report in House Shows That All is Not Clear Sailing for Measure Designed to Relieve Rural Credit Situation.

Washington.—Presentation of the Fordney emergency tariff bill in the house and decision of its supporters to call it up for consideration again this week was followed by expressions of open antagonism in the house and senate. The opposition, hitherto only slightly manifest was intensified by the filing of minority views by Representative Rainey, Democrat, of Illinois, denouncing the measure and by decision of the senate Democratic steering committee to resist hasty enactment.

The report declared remedial legislation was urgently necessary to correct a situation described as rapidly becoming worse and likely to bring ruin to the agricultural industry.

Legislation Necessary. The filing of the committee's report disclosed that the measure had been made applicable for a period of ten months from passage instead of one year as previously fixed. Chairman Fordney submitted with the report estimates of the treasury department showing that on the basis of available import figures, approximately \$130,000,000 in revenue would be derived from the duties to be imposed under the measure.

Commodities enumerated in the bill now produce less than \$5,000,000 annually.

As finally approved and reported to the house, the bill carries import duties on commodities which together with the rate agreed to in committee and the estimated revenue to come therefrom, follow:

Wheat, 30 cents bu., \$2,100,520; wheat flour, 20 cent, \$657,900; corn, 15 cents bu., \$137,625; beans, 2c pound, \$3,091,700; peanuts, unshelled, 3c per pound, \$642,540; peanuts, shelled, 3c per pound, \$4,405,410; potatoes, 25c bushel, \$1,500,000; onions, 40c bushel, \$787,040; rice, cleaned, 2c per pound, \$2,900,000; rice, uncleaned, 1-1/4c pound, \$235,550; flour meal and broken rice, 3/4c pound, \$5,037; rice, unshelled, 3/4c pound, \$70,672; lemons, 1 1/4c pound, \$2,479,400; oils, peanuts, 20c gallon, \$3,833,420; oils, cottonseed, 20c gallon, \$2,479,400; oils, soya bean, 20c gallon, \$3,837,000; cattle, 30 cent, \$5,851,500; sheep, \$2.00 a head, \$102,484; lambs, \$1 a head (no estimate); mutton and lamb, 2 1/2c a pound, \$1,656,792; wool, unwashed, 15c pound, \$9,900,000; wool, washed, 30c pound, \$28,500,000; wool, manufactured, 45c pound, \$11,250,000; wool, scoured, 45c pound, \$45,000,000.

FORMULATE MARKET PLAN

Nine Grain Handling Centers Named by Agricultural Conference.

St. Louis.—Preliminary arrangements for launching a national system of co-operative markets and financial institutions designed to rehabilitate the farming industry in this country, were completed here at the concluding session of the agricultural conference inaugurated by the national board of farm organizations.

The conference endorsed a plan to establish nine grain handling centers and will seek the united support of all farmers co-operative grain marketing organizations in carrying out the project, which is designed to eliminate the middleman and speculator.

These terminals are to be located in Kansas City, Chicago, Omaha, Sioux City, Oklahoma City, Minneapolis, Seattle, Buffalo and St. Louis.

WAR MEASURE TO PRESIDENT

Congress Passes Resolution on War Finance Board, May Be Vetoed.

Washington.—Legislative enactment of the resolution, directing revival of the war finance corporation as a measure for relief for farmers against falling prices was completed when the senate, without a record vote, concurred in house amendments eliminating the section suggesting that the federal reserve board extend liberal credits to farmers.

The resolution now goes to the president. Senators and representatives were divided in their opinion as to a possible veto. Some believe the president still would veto, while others were inclined to the belief that with the elimination of advice to the federal reserve board, approval would be given.

Picked on Wrong Woman.

Chicago.—Out of thousands of shoppers who thronged State street in the heart of the loop, Stanley Zepecki, a purse snatcher, chose Mrs. W. A. Middleton, aged 50, as a victim. Zepecki did not know that Mrs. Middleton is a teacher of physical culture. After demonstrating a few Jiu-Jitsu tricks on the man and taking her purse away from him, Mrs. Middleton surrendered the astonished pickpocket to the police. The judge completed the record with a fine of \$100 and costs and six months in the house of correction.

North Dakota News Digest

Mohall—Renville county is organizing a farm bureau.

Wildrose—A \$45,000 school will be built at an early date.

Drake—A bucket brigade saved the state mill from burning.

Killdeer—The local post of the American Legion has enlarged its quarters.

Fessenden—About 100,000 bushels of wheat are being stored in local elevators.

Fargo—Retiring Congressman, John M. Baer has joined the staff of the Fargo Courier-News.

Sanish—The oldest settler cannot recall the Missouri having been open so late as it is this year.

Washburn—Seven hundred bushels of Kubanka wheat will be shipped in here for seeding next spring.

Fort Yates—Cattle rustling still is rife in this neighborhood and occasional arrests are being made.

Grafton—Writing on "How to Make Money on the Farm," Irven K. Hagen, 13, recently won a poetry prize.

Mott—W. J. Glenn of the Mott Supply company has been acquitted of the charge of making false income tax returns.

Fargo—Between 130 and 150 boys and girls, representing the various clubs of the state, attended the annual encampment here.

Richardton—Accidental discharge of a .25-30 rifle in the hands of her six-year-old brother resulted fatally for Kathryn Hauck, three years old.

Ellendale—Dickey county boys and girls clubs will pay particular attention during 1921 to purebred stock raising. They will hold a livestock show.

Valley City—A check from the Barnes county treasurer for one cent, sent to Frank Williams for a refund on taxes paid, is being carried for a souvenir.

Mandan—A state loan to the local school board has assured the erection in 1921 of two new school buildings, a \$100,000 high school and a \$25,000 grade school.

Mandan—John M. Turner, for many years a representative of American millers in Europe, is dead in Porto Rico. He started as a laborer in the local milling plant.

Bergen—Besides supplying his family with milk and cream, George Lawrence received \$1,105 from the product of his cows during the past year. He milked from seven to 15.

Dickey—Archie Waldie of this city, a student at the Agricultural college, wrote the play with which the senior class at that institution won second place in a recent dramatic contest.

Jamestown—Oldest practicing dentist in the state and commander of the North Dakota department of the G. A. R. were the distinctions held by B. McLains, 76, who died of old here.

Velva—Turning into a ditch saved Joseph Setterstrom from driving his car into a freight train during a dense fog. None of the occupants of the car was badly injured.

Amidon—Under direction of the Slope county agent the corn acreage has more than tripled in three years and millet and similar forage crops have increased from four to six times in acreage.

Wahpeton—After two years of experimenting the International Harvester company will abandon its hemp growing project in Richland county. The work will be taken up in Marshall county, Minnesota.

Hillsboro—From Fargo along the Red river to Winnipeg is the proposed route of a new railroad to be launched by farmers. It will be called the Red River Valley railroad. Some papers already have been filed.

Noonan—A Ford driven by George Kimball was more damaged than Richard Howe when it struck the latter on a road near here and turned completely over. Howe sustained three broken ribs but the Ford was almost a wreck.

Leeds—Citizens used high powered rifles in an attempt to stop a suspicious car eastbound through here, but failed. One of the occupants of the car was left at a Devils Lake hospital suffering from three bullet wounds but the car went on its journey.

Van Hook—Signed by James K. Polk, president of the United States 1844-48, the original land patent issued to his grandfather, Cyrus Hodges, in 1845, is in the possession of William Hodges, merchant of this place. The deed is to 40 acres of Illinois land.

Grand Forks—When the ice on which Wendell Marsden, eight years old, was skating, gave way and he went into the icy waters of the river, his faithful dog plunged in after him and held him up on the edge of the ice until help came and pulled both the boy and the dog from the water.

Watford City—A touring car laden with whiskey was wrecked near here and the whiskey was cached. The runners abandoned the car and someone burned it. One cache of the whiskey has been found and Ole Skarsrud is under arrest in connection with the exploit.

Bismarck—The five Republican presidential electors chosen at the recent election will meet here the second Monday in January, the 10th, to cast the state ballot for Harding. The electors are E. L. Garden, P. M. Cole, Edward Hoverson, L. E. Heaton, and P. K. Trubshaw.

Hope—The light plant is now municipally operated.

Hankinson—The city water system will be extended and improved.

Minot—The Great Northern will make extensive improvements here.

Emerson—Purebred Holstein cattle are being imported into Dunn county.

Adrian—The Presbyterian church is out of debt and has burned its mortgage.

Arthur—Eleven thousand pounds of dressed turkeys were marketed here in three days.

Hankinson—Matt Schramm heads the Commercial club for 1921 and A. F. Jones is secretary.

Glen Ullin—Mr. and Mrs. Franz Skaisky celebrated their golden wedding with a family reunion.

Elbowoods—A new office building and a large barn are being added to the group of Indian agency buildings.

Grand Forks—Local Legionnaires have petitioned the legislature to make Armistice day a legal holiday in this state.

Fargo—North Dakota implement dealers will meet here in their twenty-second annual convention January 23, 27 and 28.

Elgin—Charged with embezzling government funds while postmaster here, William S. Murray is on trial in federal court.

Foxholm—Struck in the face by the crank of a gasoline engine when it backfired, John Clark lost the sight of his right eye.

New England—Forty thousand dollars will be received from the state by the local school district for a new school building.

Sauk—Selling his employer's cattle for \$10,000, George Renicke, foreman of the Swords ranch near here, disappeared in St. Paul.

Wilton—War against coyotes will be waged by R. E. Robinson of the United States biological survey, who has been stationed here.

Fargo—Prohibition leaders of the state will ask the next legislature to pass new laws regulating the enforcement of the Volstead act.

Park River—Paul Farup post of the American Legion has passed resolutions urging the state legislature to hasten the bonus payments.

Lidgerwood—A hawk caught and tagged by children near here during the summer was shot by a farmer in Texas, who wrote the children.

Casselton—Film productions of several of J. W. Foley's poems on North Dakota topics will be made under the direction of Miss Angela Gibson.

Bismarck—A position on the executive board of the fire marshal's association of America has been given Henry L. Reade, state fire marshal.

Mandan—With the completion of the Missouri river bridge between this city and Bismarck it is likely a paved road will be constructed over the entire six miles.

Bismarck—F. W. Cathro, head of the Bank of North Dakota, is chairman of a bankers' committee which is working out details to relieve the financial situation of the state.

Fargo—Legislation to regulate the boring and using of artesian wells in the hope of preserving this natural resource of North Dakota is proposed by the state flood control commission.

Bismarck—Two acres of land have been purchased by the city from the government tract in use by the Indian school and will be made the site for a water plant.

Marion—Thirty thousand dollars worth of North Dakota farm loans were sold by Wesley C. McDowell, head of the state bankers, on a recent business trip to the twin cities.

Devils Lake—A score of 92, attained by the R. E. Cobb Creamery company of this city at the national dairy show, is the best rank ever attained by a North Dakota concern in similar competition.

Valley City—In the arrest here of John Lynch and Charles Washington the authorities believe they have two of the ring leaders in the series of store robberies that has been taking place throughout the state.

Dunsmuir—Thirty-five ex-service men are in the state sanitarium here. Twenty-four more are in the state hospital at Jamestown, and nearly 200 more are in various authorized government hospitals throughout the state.

Hebron—Knocked out by a drink of moonshine a passerby gave him, Frank Klieck lay for three days unconscious near a building on which he was doing carpenter work. When found his feet were frozen and he had to have a leg amputated.

Washburn—A day after his wife was killed when their car went over a high bank near here, Lee Perras was arrested on a two months' old warrant charging violation of the prohibition law. He was given his liberty until after the funeral of his wife.

Bismarck—Definite proposals will be made to the next state legislature by the legislative commission of the North Dakota Educational association looking to the betterment of the state schools. Reclassification of the public schools, provision for a tuition fund for the separate school districts, a change in the method of selecting county superintendents, and increased responsibility for this position are to be asked.

Mayville—An addition of 500 blocks is being planned.

Grove's

is the Genuine and Only
Laxative
Bromo
Quinine
tablets

The first and original Cold and Grip tablet, the merit of which is recognized by all civilized nations.

Be careful to avoid imitations.

Be sure its Bromo



E. W. Grove
The genuine bears this signature
30c.

Edward Charles was a logical sort of person. Incidentally, he was in love. But love wasn't strong enough to swamp his logic.

Thus it was that Eve Maude, his adored one, received the following strange love letter:

"Eve Maude, I love you.
"First—I love you.
"Second—All the world loves a lover.
"Third—But I am a lover.
"Fourth—Therefore, the world loves me.
"Fifth—You are all the world to me.
"Sixth—Therefore, you love me."
London Answers.

Anxiety of a visitor over a family jar may be misplaced. It often doesn't mean much.

The blunt man often makes the most cutting remarks.



Warming relief for rheumatic aches.

HE'S just used Sloan's Liniment and the quick comfort had brought a smile of pleasure to his face. Good for aches resulting from weather exposure, sprains, strains, lame back, overworked muscles. Penetrates without rubbing. All druggists have it.

Sloan's Liniment

Bad Stomach

Sends Her to Bed for 10 Months

Eatonio Gets Her Up!

"Over a year ago," says Mrs. Dora Williams, "I took to bed and for 10 months did not think I would live. Eatonio helped me so much I am now up and able to work. I recommend it highly for stomach trouble."

Eatonio helps people to get well by taking up and carrying out the excess acidity and gases that put the stomach out of order. If you have indigestion, sourness, heartburn, belching, food repeating, or other stomach distress, take an Eatonio after each meal. Big box costs only a trifle with your druggist's guarantee.

SQUEEZED TO DEATH

When the body begins to stiffen and movement becomes painful it is usually an indication that the kidneys are out of order. Keep these organs healthy by taking

GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL

The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles. Famous since 1895. Take regularly and keep in good health. In three sizes, all druggists. Guaranteed as represented. Look for the same Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation.

Shave, Bathe and Shampoo with one Soap.—Cuticura

Cuticura Soap is the favorite for shaving and shaving.

Agents for FORD Permanent Non-Skid Chain. Big sales. Howe Co., Platteville, Conn.

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