

She stood rooted, spellbound. Then a pitying look crossed her face. He hung his head, self-condemned. She advanced and took his hand.

"Ronald," she said, and her tones stirred his inmost heart, "what does it all mean?"

What did it mean? Crime! Murder! He shrank from her, abject and crushed. In broken tones he quavered his miserable story.

"Oh, why did you not come to me?" she cried. "It was not your fault. The wreck was on the road that crosses ours just beyond the bridge and was caused by one of their broken rails. Our trains went through all right and even the truth about my father was not learned. Poor, dear friend, what have you not suffered!"

Innocent! A great load was lifted from Ronald Warne's mind. Like a child he sank to a chair, like a child he wept.

"Father is no longer with the road," went on Elsie. "Are you not glad—we inherited quite a fortune, and—and—"

She paused there. Then their eyes met. Her face was pleading, tell-tale. When she went away from the dim studio she left a kiss upon his lips, and in his heart—hope!

#### DISH LITTLE FOLKS WILL LIKE

A delicious and wholesome dish suitable for the children's lunch is made of rice and raisins.

Boil 1 cup of rice until tender, add 1 cup of seeded raisins and allow to boil 3 minutes. Drain and serve with cream or top milk. This is a most delicious dish and is enough for a child's luncheon.

#### SHEPHERD PLAID FOR UP-TO-DATE GIRL

Whatever else the up-to-date girl provides for her Easter wardrobe she'll be sure to have a shepherd plaid suit for street wear. The smart little checks, no more than a pin head in size, have been revived by the fash-

ion designers and black and white promises to reign supreme during the late spring.

The costume pictured is made with the new flare-skirted coat, and there is a decided flare at the bottom of the skirt. Buttons of jet and pearl, and collar and cuffs of black faille, carry out the black and white scheme very effectively.

