Her Liberty—Loaned

By HARMONY WELLER

There was more than one reason why Gladys consented to act on the woman's committee of the local Liberty Loan board. She tried conscientiously to make her duty toward her country the first and compelling reason; deep in her heart she realized, however, that there was a rival motive. And that motive was, by name, David Stapleton, chairman of the committee of men.

Gladys Moore was a girl well along in her twenties. She was quiet and pretty, with one of those sweet personalities that attracted old ladies and very young men. She had never gone out much in the village after she had returned home from boarding school. It seemed as if she had outgrown what few of her old companions remained in the home town.

And that was quite natural. Four years away from home in that important time of development in a girl's

"I Want No Other Sort."

life make a wonderful change in her tastes and habits and choice of friends.

Almost the only place she had gone during the four years that she had been at home had been to Red Cross meetings. In this organization she had worked untiringly and now, when the war was calling forth to the limit of her capacity every woman in the village, Gladys was one of the most dependable.

Then came the call for a woman's Liberty Loan committee to supplement the work of the men.

"But—I've never done anything of the kind," Gladys demurred, when they asked her to serve.

"Neither have we," said the committee in unison.

And Gladys, having previously noticed the name of David Stapleton, the cashier of the village bank, on the list of men, accepted.

David Stapleton was a widower. He had known Gladys as a girl in her teens and had always liked her. Since she had returned home he had seldom seen her. His activities lay along lines that did not include women. He hardly ever saw a woman outside of his own household, where there were a number of aunts and near aunts.

"This is my first experience in this line," Gladys said to him when they came face to face the first morning that she appeared at headquarters to begin work on the big drive.

"This is our first war, you know," David laughed, as he let her pass through the door.

"And our last—I hope," Gladys remarked.

"At least give it one blue ribbon," David found himself saying as Gladys busied herself arranging tables and chairs as part of her work on the committee on headquarters decorations.

"What for?"

"For giving me the pleasure of seeing you again."

Gladys' pretty white skin warmed perceptibly, and David, unaccustomed as he was to observing feminine charms, thought he had never seen anything so lovely as her cheeks.

Every day the two had work to do together, and occasionally in the evening Gladys found herself being escorted to or from a Liberty Loan meeting by David Stapleton.

"I've filed my questionnaire," he said to her one night on the way home.

"Your questionnaire?" she asked.

"Yes—I'm in the draft, you know."

"Oh—," Gladys breathed, "I—"

"You thought I was too old—now confess it!"

Gladys said nothing.

"Didn't you?"

"Perhaps I hadn't thought at all—about the draft," she added.

"Are you thinking now?" David asked pointedly.

Gladys nodded.

They drove on in silence. Both were thinking in a new vein.

When Gladys stepped out of the cozy little runabout before her own door she seemed to feel ill at ease. She could not explain her more or less shyness with this man whom she had known always and yet with whom now she seemed to be so strange.

"Don't you want to steal an hour away from your desk at headquarters tomorrow and have lunch with me at a teahouse on the outskirts of the autumn woods?" David asked, detaining Gladys by a very gentle touch on her arm.

Gladys caught her breath—and was almost afraid he could hear her catch it. What was the matter with her, she wondered? Why did the touch of David Stapleton make her heart leap so wildly, and why did his voice sound so low and tender?

After she reached the house she remembered having promised to go with him on the following day. She could have shaken herself for having acted like a girl of sixteen instead of like a woman nearly thirty at the mere invitation to have a bit of lunch with a man whom she had known all her life.

On her desk the following morning she found a note. It told her that the president of the bank had had an accident to his eyes the previous night and would not be in the office that day—the last but three of the loan campaign. Therefore, that note went on to say, David Stapleton would be unable to leave his desk for so much as a half hour.

Gladys did not know whether she was disappointed or relieved. But there was much work to do; the human tide of patriotic citizens flowed constantly toward her desk all day, and she had little time in which to think of herself.

Not so with the cashier—David Stapleton. His work had become so much a mechanical part of his everyday life that, though his hands were constantly busy, his thoughts were not on Liberty bonds. On bonds they might have been, but—

The telephone rang. "Hello—Mr. Stapleton?"

"Yes—Gladys," he said, recognizing her voice at once.

"I've just received my call."

"Call!" exclaimed David.

"Yes—didn't I tell you the other night that you wouldn't be the only one in France—before long?"

"No—you did not tell me."

Gladys did not reply. Each held the receiver while no sound came over the wire.

"You didn't, Gladys," repeated David.

"I thought I had told you. I shall have to report at once for physical examination. Then come my passports and then—sailing! Won't it be wonderful?"

"Yes—oh, yes. It will be quite wonderful," said David, mechanically.

The world around him had gone suddenly into the shadow—the world that had seemed so sunny, so well worth living in, of late. But—of course he himself would be going if the powers that be would have him and—"

"You don't seem very glad for me," came Gladys' voice across the wire, wistfully.

"Oh, forgive me—of course I'm glad—more glad than I can tell you, but—"

"But what?"

"Good-by. I'm coming over to your desk. I want to see you about some bonds," David said, abruptly. Some one had come into his office and he had been forced to speak quite casually.

Gladys understood.

When David approached her her hands were cold. Her cheeks were prettily pink. Her breath came far more quickly than she wanted it to.

"Want to buy a bond?" she asked jokingly. Gladys had a way of jesting when she was playing for time.

"Yes; I want a bond, the maturity of which depends on fate, Gladys," he said, sitting down across the desk and trying to compel her to look at him. There were no others in the room at the moment, but the place was as public as the whole out-of-doors.

"I—I wonder if we have that sort," she demurred, looking over her card of instructions.

"I want no other sort," David said, firmly. "Gladys, I love you. Do marry me!"

Gladys could not speak. She had lost her power to resist him, and she knew not what to say in acquiescence.

"Won't you, dear? Marry me before you go."

Gladys nodded—a series of little nods, and when she finally looked at him her eyes were full of shiny tears that with difficulty she kept from tumbling foolishly down her cheeks.

Suddenly she brushed them away. She had seen some one coming. "Of course, I will," she said. "You knew it when you asked, didn't you?"

Naturally They Would.

For the last half-hour the teacher had been busy telling his pupils about caverns and cliffs, saying, "Waves when they wash fiercely against rocks or cliffs in time wear them away and so form caverns and openings."

When he had finished the lecture he asked this question of a small boy in the corner who had been very inattentive:

"Tommy, what happens when waves wash fiercely against rocks?"

Tommy looked embarrassed, and at length answered, triumphantly:

"The rocks get very wet, sir."

Ratio of Silver and Gold.

In ancient Greece from ten to thirteen ounces of silver equaled the value of an ounce of gold. By the time Caesar was testing the valor of the Gauls silver was more scarce and seven ounces would balance an ounce of gold. Charlemagne fixed the ratio at seven and a half to one. From that time on, silver cheapened.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Mr. Davison's Announcement.

As Henry P. Davison, chairman of the war council, said in announcing the organization's after-the-war policy:

"Always, as heretofore, any plans adopted will assure complete co-operation with the respective governments and with any agencies with whom relations may be established.

"What the future is to be, no one can say. But that there will be an appealing cry of humanity from all over the world, no one can doubt. The needs of France, Belgium, Italy, Russia and the Balkans will not terminate with the formal declaration of peace. A hard winter is ahead. Exposure and the hardships of war and the dislocated industrial conditions of the world have produced hunger, want and disease.

"Politically the outlook for a new and better world is bright, but the economic conditions are ominous. There will be such distress in the world that it cannot be met by voluntary organizations. Governments themselves must bear the chief burden, and I am confident that co-operation between the governments may be relied upon in an endeavor to meet this wholesale work of relief which will be needed.

"In addition to this, there will, however, be the necessity and opportunity for supplementary work which Red Cross organizations throughout the world can do, should do and must do. Certainly the women of America, working through the Red Cross chapters, and the women in other countries able to do similar work will find their hearts dictating more than their hands can do."

The Red Cross work in north Russia has included the establishment of an American hospital of 100 beds and the daily feeding of 5,000 school children. Activities have been extended from Archangel to many small villages. An auxiliary ambulance service is operated for the medical officers of the army, and everything possible is being done for the care of our soldiers in that frozen corner of the world.

Here at home the effect of peace has been noticeable in a diminution of personnel at national headquarters in Washington, as well as in the divisions and chapters. The Christmas roll call for 1919 memberships, however, brought opportunities for a large majority of the workers to keep busy until the end of the year, and the permanent future of the society is so well settled in the public mind that it is safe to predict a continuance of effective chapter organization throughout the country. At national headquarters many of the volunteers have remained on duty at great personal sacrifice. A change in the war council has been the election of Jesse H. Jones and George E. Scott to succeed John D. Ryan and Harvey D. Gibson, resigned.

A complete review of Red Cross work in any period, even in one month, would fill volumes. But a glimpse at the high lights, a skeleton outline, suffices to indicate how wide has been the organization's range in wartime and how great are its possibilities in peace.

A Criterion in Corset Styles

It seems a far cry from the great world war to styles in corsets. Yet even in corsets, which seem so inconsequential and so small an item in the world's business, the war has changed manufacturing methods, and it looks as if it would have a lasting effect on the garment. Prices of corsets went up with scarcity of materials and increase in cost of labor. There is no immediate prospect of their coming down again. For a year at least the French corset fabrics will not be imported in sufficient quantities to influence price and the labor item is difficult to handle. Manufacturers who are willing to shave expenses in every other direction will hesitate to cut down wages. So we must reconcile ourselves to the present required expenditure and hope that it will not advance.

The low bust proves itself the most comfortable and the most graceful of corset models. In fact there is no particular reason for mentioning the bust at all in connection with new models that extend only an inch or so above the waistline. The bust is really corseted by the brassiere and the lungs and diaphragm are not subjected to the slightest pressure. Curves are long in figures corseted in this way—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Fewer bones—or steels—are used in the new models than ever before. This came about through the shortage of boning materials and proved a blessing in disguise. Even the stout woman finds her figure well supported by corsets in which few bones are used instead of many and the gain in suppleness is obvious. The wits of corset designers have been put to the test and sharpened by necessity which is the mother of invention. The art of the corsetier is a great art and an example of its late achievement appears in the picture shown here. This corset may be accepted as a criterion in corset styles.

Julia Bottomley

Kitchen Curtains.

The very prettiest way of curtaining the kitchen window is by using the double-sash curtains. Dutch curtains, they are called. Make the two pairs of crisp muslin, or soft voile or cheesecloth, as preferred, and sew down the sides and across the bottom a band of plain color to match the kitchen color scheme. These bands may be from two to four inches wide. The bottom curtains are usually kept closed, but the upper ones are always open to allow sunlight and air to come in and the bit of color at the edges seems to be just what so many kitchens need to brighten them up.

Washing Fluid.

The following will be found an excellent washing fluid: Five pounds of washing soda, one gallon of cold water; put to boil. While boiling, add one pound of chloride of lime and stir well; set aside to settle. Strain through a cloth and cork up in a jug. Put your soiled clothes in ten quarts of water, or enough to cover them, with two handfuls of chipped soap and one pint of fluid.

BIG INCREASE IN HOG PRODUCTION

Cholera Treatment Is Great Assistance in Filling Pork Barrel of Nation.

MANY ANIMALS IMMUNIZED

It Is Estimated That More Than 37,500,000 Pounds of Pork Were Added to Supply During Fiscal Year Ending June 30.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Advance of the serum and virus treatment for hog cholera is credited with being largely responsible for recent great development of the traffic in stocker and feeder hogs. It is estimated that more than 37,500,000 pounds of pork were added to the nation's supply by this traffic in the fiscal year that ended June 30, although regulations were modified to help the industry only on January 2. Further notable growth of the traffic is expected.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, there were 254,731 head of swine inspected and immunized against hog cholera by inspectors of the bureau of animal industry at public stock yards and shipped to country points for feeding and breeding purposes. The average weight of these animals at the time of immunization was approximately 100 pounds. Probably 250,000 of the number were shipped for feeding purposes and later were returned to the markets at an average weight of 250 to 275 pounds, giving an approximate total increase of from 37,500,000 to 43,500,000 pounds of pork.

How Hog Cholera Spreads.

Many years ago light-weight hogs and piggy sows were sold at the markets as feeders and breeding animals, respectively, and shipped indiscriminately to all sections of the country. This spread hog-cholera infection throughout all swine-raising sections, and was one of the causes of the staggering losses from that disease. The United States department of agriculture thereupon issued an order prohibiting the interstate shipment of hogs from public stockyards except for immediate slaughter. The effect of that order was that all light-weight hogs—some of them young sows suitable for breeding—sent to the markets were slaughtered, and the pork which would have been produced, had they grown to maturity, as well as the potential breeding value of the sows, was consequently lost.

County Agent Inoculating Pig With Cholera Serum.

In addition, the fact that many of these animals were not especially desirable for slaughter made them bring comparatively low prices, frequently resulting in actual loss to the shippers.

Quarantine Order Modified.

After the serum and virus treatment against hog cholera was standardized by specialists of the department, an order was issued permitting swine to be shipped from public stockyards for feeding or breeding purposes when they had been given such treament under the supervision of a department inspector. However, it was required that treated swine should be held in the yards 21 days before shipment, this period being later reduced to 14 days. The cost of feeding the animals during the quarantine period was so great that the traffic did not reach any considerable proportions. But with added knowledge and experience in the control of hog cholera, and amplification of state laws governing its control, the department thought it safe to permit the shipment of treated hogs at once to points in states which have regulations requiring that such animals be held in local quarantine until 21 days have elapsed since the date of treatment. The order permitting this became effective on January 2, 1918.

Previous to that date, shipments of immunized swine had been comparatively few, while since that time the number has grown rapidly. No doubt is entertained that as the facilities for handling such animals are improved and the general knowledge with reference to hog cholera is increased, the traffic in stocker and feeder hogs from public stockyards will have a steady growth and will become a tremendous factor in the production and conservation of food.

A Delicious Table Fowl.

The meat of the guinea fowl is dark, but of delicious flavor, being preferred to chicken by many.

LOCAL BUSINESS MEN AND FARMERS LEARN

Co-Operation and Sympathetic Understanding Established.

Especially Helpful in Providing Harvest Labor Needed in Constantly Enlarged Agricultural Program in All Sections.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

One of the greatest achievements of the farm labor activities conducted by the United States department of agriculture during the past year in farming sections all over the country where labor was needed, was the establishment of cordial co-operation and sympathetic understanding between farmers and local business men, department specialists state.

As a result of this co-operation crops have been harvested by aid of the business men from cities and towns in hundreds of localities where large losses would undoubtedly have resulted from lack of labor. About 35,000 town and city dwellers helped harvest

Lexington (Ky.) Volunteer Wheat Threshers.

in Kansas, 15,000 in Nebraksa, 20,000 in Oregon, 10,000 in Missouri, 12,000 in Indiana, 25,000 in Illinois, and proportionate numbers in practically all other states. The farmer has thus learned that local town and city folks can assist greatly in this emergency work and has come to look with favor upon their co-operation. The effect has been to bring farmer and town resident into more cordial relations.

The results achieved along this line are especially helpful toward providing the harvest labor needed in a constantly enlarging agricultural program. Too much emphasis, it is believed, cannot be placed on the phase of the movement that has to do with bringing into close co-operation and alignment all the forces which have more or less to do with the labor problem and framing a program that will eliminate as far as possible the loss due to having an oversupply of labor at certain places and shortage at others, and that will make possible the use of all the local labor to the fullest extent and thus save transportation of workers from distant areas and necessary loss of time occasioned in such travel.

The success in dealing with the farm labor situation during the past year is thought to justify confidence in meeting any situation that may develop in 1919.

FIGHTING ASH-WOOD BORERS

Investigations to Prevent Serious Losses of Forest Resources From Damage by Pests.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Special investigations to prevent serious losses of forest resources from damage by wood and bark-boring insects has been a part of the important war-time work of the bureau of entomology, United States department of agriculture. Recent investigations of logging and manufacturing operations in Mississippi to meet the demand for ash oars, handles, and other supplies required by the war service showed that one company had lost more than 1,000,000 feet of ash logs through failure to provide for prompt utilization after the trees were cut and thus prevent the attack of destructive ash-wood borers. The general adoption of the methods advised by this bureau has resulted in a continued reduction of the heretofore serious losses of seasoned ash and other hardwood sap material from powder post.

BARBERRY IS DISAPPEARING

Campaign for Control of Stem-Rust of Wheat Has Resulted in Removal of Noxious Plant.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The campaign for the control of stem-rust of wheat through the eradication of the common barberry has aroused a widespread and effective sentiment against the shrub. This has resulted in the actual removal of the following estimated percentages of the plants located by a survey conducted by the United States department of agriculture; Northern Illinois, 60 per cent; Wisconsin, 90 per cent; Minnesota, 80 per cent; North Dakota, 90 per cent; South Dakota, 80 per cent; Nebraska, 75 per cent, and Iowa, 75 per cent. The work has been well begun in the states adjoining those named. Safety from stem-rust of wheat lies only in the complete eradication of the common barberry plant, specialists of the department say.