

## A SWEETHEART AT THIRTY

The Story of a Woman's Transformation  
BY MARION RUBINCAM

Chapter 47  
**ESTHER'S IDEAS.**  
"It's Providence, that's what it is," said Esther, shaking a pillow vigorously.

"What is Providence?" I asked, smoothing the sheet carefully and tucking in all the corners methodically, as Esther liked.

For reply she murmured some words which would be impossible to set down as she gave them. What she said was:

"It's Providence that Sarah's sister died, and she found that other fellow out West some place."

But as she was holding a fat pillow tightly between her teeth, and pulling on a pillow case, her words were very much garbled.

I saw that Esther was about to express her opinion concerning Mark and myself, and there was nothing to do but let her have it out. I pulled the white counterpane up neatly, and began folding the blanket carefully at the foot of the bed.

It had been a hot and busy week. The farm work alone was more than enough for us. Jim had enough hired men now, but two of them lived with us, and that meant extra beds to make up, two more rooms to be kept clean, and two more to cook for.

Having accustomed myself to the small amounts of marketing necessary for Violet and myself during the winter, I used to stare in amazement at the huge roasts that went into the oven for the midday dinner—and that were completely demolished before the meal was over. Jim was always what Esther called a "hearty feeder," and James came home ravenous. The hired men always ate enormously. We had meat three times a day—at least, they did. Violet and I—suppose having trained our appetites differently during the winter—ate, as Esther said, "like sparrows." But I think we were the healthier for it.

We really worked so hard that there was little time for long conversation. Mark came once again that week, but I managed not to see him alone. Then he went back to his own home. This morning we heard he was coming back again in a few days, and that started Esther on the subject.

"Providence!" she re-affirmed, shaking the pillow hard and then setting it erect upon the head of the bed. "I can see the hand of Providence as plain! You was fool enough to let him get away when you was young. I don't know whether you could have gotten him back last summer or not—I guess you could, he really did ask you to marry him, didn't he?" she gave me a shrewd glance out of her little greenish eyes.

"He wanted a housekeeper that's what it amounted to," I replied, gathering up the soiled sheets and going off to another bedroom.

Esther followed behind me, pretending to help do the room work—my special task. We stripped the covers from the bed, and began putting on fresh linen, still fragrant from its long sunbath when it was bleached on the grass.

"Well, he'll be more romantic this time," she predicted. "Even a man of 40 has romance in him I suppose—though Lord knows, Jim got over his romantic notions soon enough after we married."

She shook out another pillow, and

held it between her teeth to push on a new case. I looked at her critically again—no wonder Jim had gotten over his "romantic notions"! There was a curious resemblance in shape between Esther and the pillow. She had allowed herself, even when she was quite young and only married a few years, to grow fat and rather blowy.

She had fulfilled her mission in life—she had found a man, married him, she was bearing him children and keeping his house. What else was there? Why should she keep his love? Hadn't she married him? Wasn't that enough? He had to go on loving her—he had promised to; it was in the wedding ceremony.

And beyond that she did not think. Later she regretted—but that was later, much later. Meantime she shook out the pillows and turned the mattresses and discussed Mark.

"Course we all thought you were a hopeless old maid," she said with her usual frankness. "But now I got hopes of you. I dunno what you did to yourself this winter—maybe you needed a change of air, or something. But you used to look older than me, and now you look younger. I don't think you even look as old as you are. Course you got gray hairs. I can see them, but your hair somehow has more color."

"And of course," she went on, "Laura and I both think your clothes silly and affected—but they do make you look younger, there's no denying that. And as I says to Laura, after all it don't matter what she does to herself now, she can wear things with skirts that hike and show her ankles, and she can toddle about on high heels when she ought to be wearing common sense shoes at her age, and she can smear her face all up with creams and such truck—but it's all right, I says, as long as she gets him."

"Esther!" I cried in anger. "What are you talking about?"

"Mark, of course," she said, her eyes growing round in surprise. "You had these sentimental ideas about not taking him because he didn't love you. Now you are making yourself look young again, so's he'll fall in love. And he'll do it too, if you treat him nice. As I said, it was Providence made Sarah's relation die out West and sent her out there to marry that other man. Otherwise, she'd have Mark and you'd be too late."

Tomorrow—An Ugly Suspicion.

### Heart Problems

Dear Mrs. Thompson: Could you suggest a name and colors for a club of ten girls? ANXIOUS.  
Why not call yourselves "The Magpies," if you all enjoy chattering; if you think the girls have wisdom, call your club "The Owls"; if happiness

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**Fred's Clothes Shop**  
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reigns supreme, then name your club "The Bluebird Club."

Blue and gold, black and yellow and light green and pink are the three favorite combinations for club colors.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a freshman at a commercial high school. Could I go to college after graduating from there? If I change to high school, would I be promoted? Would you advise me to change?

FRESHMAN.

You should attend an academic high school if you wish to attend college. You would not be promoted, but would no doubt be placed in the same class in the academic school as in the commercial. If you have an opportunity to go to college do not allow anything to interfere.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: Please print some way I can get rid of blackheads, as I have a lot of trouble with them on my nose and chin. I also have enlarged pores. How can I reduce them?

I THANK YOU.

To cure blackheads make an ointment of one ounce of soap liniment and one ounce of ether; mix. At night scrub the face thoroughly with hot water, using a complexion or other soft brush. After wiping, apply the mixture to each of the spots and let it remain on over night. Wash off in

### When a Doctor Sneezes

Doctors, out in all kinds of weather, suffer frequently from colds yet seldom seriously.

There's a good reason. Doctors realize the danger and upon appearance of the first symptoms of cold begin taking medicine to check its progress.

Follow the doctors' example and you too will escape the serious consequences of neglect. Take Lightning Quinine Tablets as soon as you feel a cold coming on. They stop a cold right off; ward off fever, cleanse intestines; never gripe or sicken. Druggists guarantee them—only 25c a box.

**Lightning**  
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### Dr. J. A. Thomson

Dentist

Murray Theater Building  
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Phone 2930

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**D&S Drug Co.**  
"WHERE QUALITY COMES FIRST"

**DAMAGED TIRES and INNER TUBES CAREFULLY REPAIRED**  
Here at moderate cost  
WM. F. LEE  
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"Richmond's Reliable Tire Man"

the morning with hot water. Continue until the spots have disappeared. Then twice a week wash the face with this mixture, removing the liquid at once by rinsing with clear water. For enlarged pores, wipe over each with a little alcohol.

### HAYS LIKELY

(Continued from Page One)  
but Hays confines himself to organization.

In that line his activity is prodigious. He will be engaged in an important conference in Indianapolis. At 11:30 p. m. he will adjourn the conference to meet at two the following afternoon. Then he will take the midnight train to Chicago, keep an engagement with someone, breakfast, take the five hour train back to Indianapolis, and resume the conference as per schedule. He will call you up on the long distance telephone at such extraordinary hours that many folks doubt whether he ever sleeps at all. He will keep an engagement at Portland, Maine, on Monday, in New York on Tuesday, in Chicago on Wednesday, and so on across the continent—all the time keeping a stenographer busy on the

train and making innumerable engagements by long distance and telegraph. What is even more engaging than ability. Hays has character. It is not usual to find an elder in the Presbyterian church and a successful politician in and the same 100 pounds of flesh. Anybody who has had contact with the management of the recent campaign knows that as a politician Hays does nothing inconsistent with being a Presbyterian elder. Whether as a Presbyterian elder he does anything inconsistent with being a politician is something that only the members of the Presbyterian church of Sullivan, Ind., can say.

It is one of the engaging things about Will Hays, and one of the things that has made him useful and successful in his job, that he is typical of Sullivan, Indiana, one of those small cities of 10,000 population or less lying a considerable distance from any

### MOTHER'S FRIEND

For Expectant Mothers  
Used By Three Generations

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BRADFORD REGULATOR CO., DEPT. 5-D, ATLANTA, GA.

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big city. Serving as the county seat of a rural farming population—the kind of town in which the best of Indiana is to be found.  
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### SCIENCE REVEALS

that foods that abound in the vitamins best promote healthful growth.  
**Scott's Emulsion**  
as an aid to growth and strength should have a place in the diet of most children.  
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The New Edison  
**HARRISON'S EDISON SHOP**  
"IN THE WESTCOTT PHARMACY"

## Nusbaum's Beauty Parlor

Expert Shampooing, Manicuring, Hair Dressing and Facial Massage

Soft Water Used Exclusively

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In various styles, all sizes, during our sale—

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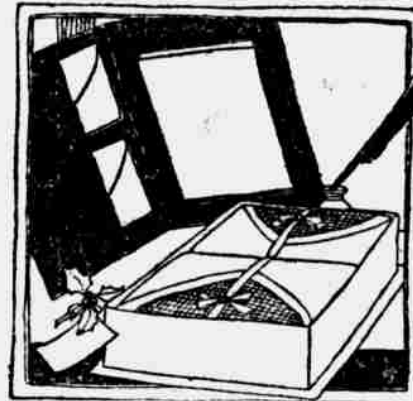
### Pottery

The Gift for the Artistic Home

You will marvel at our assortment of Sastuna and Sylvian Pottery in rare and unique designs. They are beautifully shaped and wonderfully colored.

### Framed Paintings

In pastels or water colors. Such a gift will be of lasting and growing value—\$4.00 up.



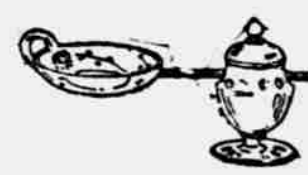
### Christmas Stationary

An Elaborate Line

Our display this year is by far the best that we have ever had. All sizes in colors, monogrammed or plain. Priced at, per box, 25c, 75c, \$1.00 and upward to \$15.00

### For Baby's Xmas

Hand-painted Pottery Pieces, specially priced Plates, \$7.50; Mush and Milks, 75c; Cups and Saucers, 60c.



### Cut Glass

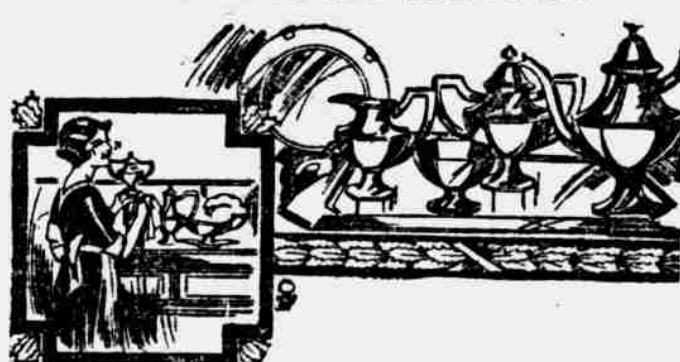
To adorn the dining room—

Our display of Cut Glass is admired by all who enter our store. We feature the famous Clark Cut Glass Bowls, Vases, Water Sets, Nappies, etc. The values in this assortment are unusual.

### CASSEROLES

The well known Pyrex Cut Glass. Several sizes—\$7.50 up.

### Sheffield Silver



A lustrous display in a varied assortment of pieces. Our stock is equal to any. To choose from—

Roll Trays, Cracker Trays, Cream Sets, Comports, Fruit Baskets, Casseroles, Salt and Peppers, Cake Baskets, Pic Plates, Cheese Trays, Bon Bons and Holders, Mayonnaise Sets, Candle Sticks, Electric Lamps.

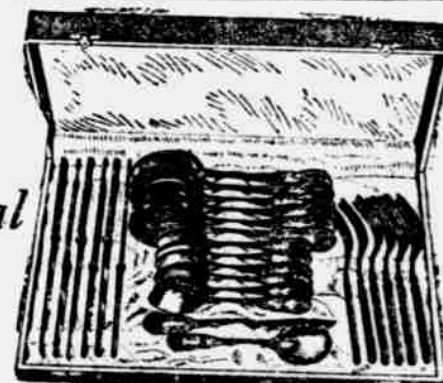
### Xmas Cards and Folders

Nowhere in the city will you find such a large assortment of Xmas Cards and folders as we are showing. Complete from every angle.

### Serving Trays

Beautiful Mahogany Trays with hand painted decorations, in many sizes and styles.

### The Gift Practical



### SILVERWARE

The sensible and practical gift is Silverware. We offer a large selection of sets or separate pieces—

Knives, Forks, Teaspoons, Fruit Spoons, Jelly Servers, Cold Meat Forks, Cheese Knives, Cream Ladles, Berry Spoons, Fruit Knives, Salad Forks, Tomato Servers, Baby Sets, Table Spoons, Butter Spreader, Pickle and Lemon Sets, Carving Sets.

"Women are the poetry of the world."—HARGRAVE



MEN who regard the selection of a Christmas present for a woman as only a little less difficult than the matching of a sample of silk, will be amazed at the ease and speed with which an appropriate and sensible gift may be selected here.

**Palatin Royal**

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