

The Girl Who Had No Chance

By MARION RUBINCAK

Chapter 36.

LOST.

A long description of the apartment followed in Myra's letter; and further activities of Emily, now in town and allowed out only for an hour a day. Myra evidently had no intention of returning to the little home city.

"I can't, you know, because Tim wants me to be near him. I suppose I must tell it sometime, and I may as well do it now. Tim and I are engaged."

It came to her just like that, and Ruth, reading the letter, suddenly went cold all over. Her fear of something like this had been so great that she took Myra's letter up to her room to be alone when she read it.

So it was true! So Myra had flirted with him! So the almost inevitable result of their companionship was this!

Ruth never finished reading that letter. It was a cruel part even to look at it. Days later she found it where she had hastily stuffed it into her desk-drawer, and she took it downstairs and burnt it in the kitchen stove, stirring the black ashes until they mixed with the red coals and could not be seen any longer.

Myra and Tim engaged! The top of her head felt cold, her hands were wet and like ice, and for some time she could not think clearly. Myra and Tim—her Tim, the tall, strong, impetuous boy who had swept her into his arms, who had kissed her and who had declared he would never love anyone else!

And to Myra! In the old days Myra had not liked him much; at least, she had given no evidence of more than casual friendship before Ruth. And Tim had not liked Myra at all. He had even said—

She went to her little "treasure box" where she had kept all his letters. She wanted to see what he had said, ear-

lier. But much might happen over the winter. Her own letters could not have been interesting. All winter she had stayed home and worked. She never had anything to tell, except her steadily increasing love, and perhaps he had tired of that. Certainly Myra in her cozy, luxurious apartment, with her splendid dresses and her numerous engagements, would have proved much more fascinating than herself—poor, dull, little keeper of a lodging house!

But she did not read the letters over again, not that day, nor ever. Several times she tried, but the hurt was too great, and one day some time afterwards, she took the whole box and without opening it, burnt it and its contents. But for a long time she could not bear the sight even of it, and never used the bureau drawer she kept it in.

But why didn't Tim write? If it were true, he should say something. They were not actually engaged, but surely it was understood. For he was to go to the city and send for her when he could afford to marry. If he could not afford to marry her, he could not afford to marry Myra! Some comfort came from that—at least the engagement was settled to that extent.

If only she could have gone to the city! Tim would have been near her and Myra would not have—

Have what? Perhaps they really were in love! Perhaps Myra truly cared and it was not a flirtation. Perhaps Tim really wanted Myra, not herself.

Ruth could not stand the four walls of the room. They imprisoned her. She put on her hat and started out. She did not want to go through any part of the town where she would meet her friends, for her face might betray her feelings. Besides, she could not bear the sight of anyone she knew.

So she cut through some small streets, and found herself over in the factory district. The houses were mere hovels; even the best of them were depressing in their ugliness.

She walked along dirt streets lined with two-story brick houses, with lights burning inside (since it was getting dark) and dirty little children swarming outside along such pavements as existed.

How dreary it was! Spring came beautifully in her part of the town, with green grass and flowers. Here it came as mud puddles and it stirred up an odor of rotting food instead of the delicacy of blooming flowers. She

Heart Problems

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a girl of 18, and have been keeping company with a fellow four years my senior for the past six months. The fellow seemed very nice and respectful, but in the past three weeks there has been a little trouble between us. Soon after our trouble he went with another girl who was not very respectable. Of course this became the talk of the town, which put me in a very bad place.

Soon after this I met him. He admitted this to be true, but still wanted me to go with him, saying nothing would ever happen like that in the future. His past life I know nothing about, because I have only known him about a year, but I have heard things about him but cannot say they are true.

My parents were very much disappointed in him and forbid me keeping company with him. Do you think it would be proper for me to continue our friendship in the future, providing he keeps his promise?

DIMPLES.

Obey your parents since they have forbidden you to keep company with the young man. I would advise you to aim higher in your friendships. Something is wrong with the young man's character or he would not have stooped to a thing which was so bad it made the whole town talk. Tell him to earn the friendship of respectable girls by rising above the sort of thing he has just done. Until he shows himself to be worthy and wins the respect of your parents, regard him as a friend.

In any even of this situation will

It was Tim and Myra and herself that occupied her.

Everything was gone. Her chance to work—would she, too, have to enter a factory? Her chance to love—her chance to live! Everything was gone, and ahead was only a long and lonely struggle with poverty, in a small town where nothing happened. If she could only have gone to the city last winter!

She entered the library at home to find her Aunt Sarah there with her family. There was much laughter and excitement.

"And she wants to send you away for a trip," Mrs. O'Neal cried. "Ruth here's your chance to go to New York!"

And they stared in amazement when the girl suddenly burst into hysterical sobs and left the room.

New York—now!

Monday—Going away.



A great many of the troubles my readers have are due only to their nervous systems. It is amazing the unexpected results that nervousness will have on one's health and looks.

Some cases of baldness are due to nervousness. A great deal of dandruff is due to a nervous condition. It is indirectly the reason for falling hair. It is a cause of some varieties of eczema. It is sometimes the reason for a coarse-grained skin, because it makes the complexion very dry and coarse pores are apt to result from this.

MISS THERESA—When you have squeezed out the blackhead, touch the place where it has been with a little peroxide of hydrogen. This is antiseptic and astringent, so it will close up that large pore. If you do not reduce these pores, they will, of course, fill up again as blackheads. If you keep the skin properly cleaned, they will reduce gradually, so you will not have any trouble.

ANNA—An average weight for a girl 22 who is 5 feet 2 inches is 120 pounds. If your arms and legs are thin it shows that you need to develop yourself by exercise. An excellent way of making the eyelashes thicker is to clip them and apply not vaseline, but some preparation made with vegetable oil.

There is no remedy for a long neck. As a matter of fact a long neck is very beautiful if the head and shoulders are held properly. If your neck seems too long, break the line of it by wearing becoming collars. If you will send me a letter with a self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed, I will send you the formula for an excellent hair tonic.

All inquiries addressed to Mrs. Forbes in care of the "Beauty Chats" department will be answered in these columns in their turn. This requires considerable time, however, owing to the great number received. So, if a personal or other reply is desired, a stamped and self-addressed envelope must be enclosed with the question. The Editor.

come a division among the Republicans and other conditions so chaotic as to make it impossible to predict anything about the outcome of the tariff except to say that the developments will be surprising. So much for the main outlines of the Republican programme. There are a number of isolated measures which will come up from time to time: One will be the immigration restriction bill which was passed by the last congress by a majority of 30 to 1 in the senate and 7 to 1 in the house, but which was vetoed by Wilson. There is no reason to anticipate that the preponderance of sentiment in favor of this bill will

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10% any change on the smaller incomes from \$50,000 a year to \$100,000 is made it is more likely to be in the direction of increasing them than of reducing them.

Another Change

Another change tentatively discussed in the field of taxation is the repeal of the excess profits tax on corporations. This repeal is contemplated partly on the theory that during the present period of deflations the corporations will not have large profits and this form of taxation will yield little.

The final change within the field of taxation so far that has the approval of any number of important leaders is the adoption of the "direct sales tax," which is substantially a tax of either one-half or one percent or one per cent, as may later be decided, on the entire gross sales of everybody who sells goods or services.

As to the making the new permanent tariff, the Republican leaders are just beginning to see the expected difficulty and opposition inherent in the change brought about by the war in the fiscal and economic relations of America to the rest of the world. The fact that was changed us from a borrowing nation to a lending nation and that a lending nation always tends toward facilitating imports is just beginning to be apparent. The advocates of a tariff high to the point of being prohibitive will not have in the present congress the support they have had in the past from the manufacturing and capitalist classes of the east.

Fathers Want Tariff.

The strongest demand for a high tariff now comes, not from the manufacturing communities of New England and the East, so much as from the farming communities of the mid-West and West. In any even of this situation will

be less in the new congress than in the old.

Must Re-apportion.

Another important bill will be the re-appointment of congress, based on the last census. The issue in this bill is whether the lower house of congress shall be kept at its present size of 435 members or whether it shall be increased by 48 members. If the size is kept at 435 it will mean that in the shifting of population revealed by the last census certain states will gain members and certain other states, notably Missouri, Iowa and Indiana, will lose members. It is the hesitancy to compel any state to have a smaller number of congressmen than it has heretofore had and a fraternal dislike on the part of members of congress to exile some of their associates that constitutes the only argument for increasing membership.

One other important measure that will come up early in the new session is the bill appropriating twenty-five million dollars to Columbia to cover damages alleged to have been done that country by our action in recognizing the Republic of Panama when it seceded from Columbia in connection with the building of the Panama canal.

Strong Opposition.

To this bill there will be strong opposition. It was probably a mere accident that led President Harding to choose this measure as the first that he has asked the senate to accept as a part of his programme in the field of foreign relations. Nevertheless as it has turned out, he is now in the position at the very outset of his administration of pressing for the passage of a treaty which is going to have determined opposition.

Two things will come up in the coming congress which are in the nature of unfinished business. They are the army and the navy appropriation bills.

The army bill passed the last session but was vetoed by Wilson, probably because congress has cut the requested

appropriation bill in half and reduced the army to 150,000. The navy appropriation bill passed the House, but the senate wished to raise it from four hundred million to five hundred.

When this question comes up now, we may have a renewal of the effort of Senator Borah and others to bring about some degree of disarmament.

This is as well as the Colombia treaty, which will be a field in which some degree of insurgency may arise.

So much for the Republican program, as to the Democrats the only program they can have as a minority party is a program of opposition. Just what they will do in that line is not yet crystallized.

Democrats Feeble.

In the House the Democratic representation is so small compared to the Republican that the party will necessarily be feeble. Even more striking than their weakness in numbers is their weakness in leadership. In fact, in the house so many able Democrats were dislodged by the landslide last November that it can almost be said that their leadership there, so far as it can now be foreseen, will be negligible. In the senate while the Democrats are only 31 out of 96, they number among them so many able men that their leadership in opposition may well turn out to be formidable. If the Republicans give these Democratic leaders the opening, we may see

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wish to become a part of this organization can do so, and he may sell his grain direct or through local, state or district pools. This covers wheat, corn, oats and other grains. This plan preserves all present units of marketing machinery as used by present co-operators, but does not include the speculative machinery of the system now in use. The board opposes the speculative feature. A resolution asking that farmers be allowed the right of collective bargaining, the same as are purchasers, and condemning a sales tax, was unanimously adopted.

Congress will be appealed to to enact desired legislation and to extend federal bank credits to the finance corporation now to be formed to finance the whole deal.

The farmer will have two options: He may sell his grain through his local elevator, or pool it with his neighbors, in which case his grain passes into the hands of the local pooling committee, which will direct the national sales agency.

GRAIN SELLING

(Continued from Page One)

not out for cheap men at this time, as one of the delegates stated it.

The marketing machinery will be owned and controlled by the farmer membership, entirely, and no man can become a member unless he is an actual grain grower, or receives grain

rent for his land. All farmers who

kind certainly must come up. It must come up because Harding has promised it.

For the present, there is no crystallization among the leaders of a kind likely to lead to immediate initiative on the part of America. The fact that this is a condition which may change on any day, does not make it any the less a fact. Many millions of our citizens wish that this were not so but for the present that is all that can be said in an account intended to record what is actually in sight.

All this program of the Republicans is within the field of what may be termed the material side of the government, the field of ordinary government housekeeping, business methods and routine. It contains nothing within the field of idealism, and nothing related to those great questions which compose the spectacular milestones of history. If anything of that kind arises, it will be more likely to be condemned with our relations to the rest of the world. It will arise in connection with international co-operation for disarmament, or for the prevention of war through an international court of justice. Something of that

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