

Until Love Happens

by MARGARET NICHOLS



CHAPTER THIRTY THREE

Teresa was sitting at the dressing table brushing her golden hair. She wore a green house gown with gold thread shot through it. Her eyes, startled somewhat, followed Alison from the door to the center of the room.

"Teresa, is Suzy Sam's child?"

Teresa's hand came down slowly from her hair. She laid the brush down and turned it over. Her hand went to her hair then again to pull it in place. Then she began to move—the bottles of perfume, the nail file, the mirror, the deep, crystal ash tray. All the while her shoulders were rigid; her face, shining from the cream, told nothing. Then her shoulders squared and she brought her hands together, rubbing them. Then she sat perfectly still, her hands folded.

"You don't dare tell Sam that," she said.

"But is she? Is she his child?"

"Nicola. I always knew when she came back sorrow would come to roost."

"She's told only me. No one else."

Teresa looked at her through the mirror. "And you're not going to tell anyone, Alison. Do you hear? You're not going to tell anyone. It wouldn't do any good to tell. You'd only put doubts in Sam's mind. Would you do that to him? In the first place he would not believe you and in the second he would despise you for being a foolish, jealous girl. You'd only succeed in making a ridiculous spectacle of yourself. Anyone can make a statement like that, you know. How do I know you're Walter Van Dyke's daughter?"

"It's wrong, Teresa. It's so wrong it's infamous of you cheat Sam again. And you would not look so frightened and your mind would not be so busy working on self defense — if it were not true. Do you know what mother would have done if anyone had suggested I was not my father's child? She'd have laughed and thought it the best joke she ever heard. You're not laughing, Teresa. Why don't you laugh at me? If I were you I'd have to get it out so I could start all over again. Because it will come out. There are three of us who know. Even if I don't tell, it will come out. Years from now it'll be too late to start all over again. Suppose you and Sam are middle-aged when it's known. You can't start all over again then. And Suzy! What will she think of you? You can't leave her out of it. You've got to tell Sam the truth while Suzy is too

young to understand. You've got to tell Suzy who her father is."

Teresa put the palms of her hands against her forehead. "You'd better go to your room."

"I'll go to my room. But remember, you can't go back. Years from now you can't come back to now. You'll never be happy. And years from now what Suzy thinks will probably matter more than anything else on earth to you. You'll want her to love you and admire you and approve of you. Teresa, I wouldn't want my daughter to ask me who her father is."

Teresa spread her hands across the dressing table and buried her head in them. "I told you to go to your room, Alison. It's late and I'm tired."

"You'll never be happy. You'll never have any peace. You've worked so hard. Don't you want what you've earned? You can't cheat Sam again and you can't go on lying to your daughter the rest of your life. 'Daddy... Your father'... It will do it to them. You can't do it to yourself."

"You're in love with Sam, aren't you?"

"Yes, Teresa. I love him and I'm in love with him. But you and Suzy are my family. You're the only family I've got. I love you, too."

Teresa was motionless when she left her.

of individual little worlds. She was hungry. She went into a restaurant and ordered soup and coffee. Then she lighted a cigarette and looked at the clock on the wall. Her chest felt congested. If she went back now she would only have to stick her head briefly into the living room and say, "Hello, Sam. Good night," and climb the stairs to her room. Was the living room filled with throbbing music tonight? You set a good stage, Teresa. Food and wine and music. Did you buy a new dress today to wear for Sam tonight? You set an alluring trap, Teresa, and bait it with another man's child.

The street on which Teresa lived was shadowy and still. Yes, there was Sam's car, still loyal, still muddy. The yellow silk curtains were drawn. Suzy slept and Sam and Teresa were in the living room.

She lifted the knocker and dropped it. She felt as unwelcome as a beggar and a little sick.

Sam opened the door. It was true what she had been thinking. His near-black eyes were full of life and his thoughts and feelings. They searched her face, no, examined it so gladly that she thought there was no secret she could ever keep from him. He was glad to see her. The warm excitement in his eyes told her so.

(To Be Continued)

HIGHWAY DEATHS DROP 9 PER CENT

North Carolina Has 1,050 Accidents During First Nine Months Of Year

RALEIGH, Nov. 14—(P)—During September, 79 persons were killed and 546 were injured in 1,050 traffic accidents on North Carolina streets and highways, bringing the total traffic count for the first nine months of this year to 594, Col. L. C. Rosser, commissioner of motor vehicles, said today.

Rosser said this was a nine per cent decrease in fatalities and a 12 per cent increase in accidents over September, 1946, when 87 persons were killed and 88 were injured in 897 traffic accidents.

The September report, however, showed an increase in fatalities over August, when 63 persons were killed and 555 were injured in 1,046 accidents.

Rosser said that during September, 26 persons were killed in motor vehicle collisions; 23 by motor vehicles running off roadway; 19 by motor vehicles hitting pedestrians; five by collision between motor vehicle and bicycle; and one by a motor vehicle colliding with train. Five people were killed in miscellaneous accidents.

Seven Children

Of the total, seven were children under 14 years of age. Three were stricken while riding bicycles; two, while playing in

the roadway; and two, passengers in cars.

Rosser said the September fatalities showed a 40 per cent increase in motor vehicle-bicycle fatalities; and a 32 per cent decrease in pedestrian fatalities over September, 1946.

In urban areas there were 396 traffic accidents which took the lives of 12 persons — four of whom were pedestrians — and injured 115 others — 34 were pedestrians. Urban fatalities showed a 25 per cent decrease over September, 1946.

In rural areas, 67 persons were killed and 341 were injured as a result of 654 accidents. A six per cent decrease was noted in rural fatalities over September of last year.

RADIO BLOCK CONCLUDES MISSION SERMONS

Bishop Of California Brings Series To Close With Inspiring Talk

The Rt. Rev. Karl M. Block, bishop of California, concluded his series of talks at the mission services in Episcopal churches here Friday.

The morning talks on personal religion were brought to an inspiring and uplifting close at the service at St. John's Episcopal church at 11 a. m. Friday. He depicted Christian life as a source of strength to the man who lives it and a well of life giving water which is passed from him to his fellow men.

He drew graphic word pictures of trials nobly borne by valiant souls and said, "Let us

RADIO WMFD 1400 On Your Dial

TODAY—

6:30—Coffee Club
7:00—UP News
7:05—Coffee Club
7:30—Musical Clock
7:55—North Carolina Highlights
8:00—News with Martin Agronsky
8:15—Musical Clock
8:30—UP News
8:35—Tommy Bartlett Time
9:00—To Be Announced
9:30—Piano Playhouse
10:30—Junior Junction
11:00—Marks Machinery Presents
12:00—Noon Day Musical
12:30—The American Farmer
1:00—Rest Hour Music
1:30—Star-News Commentator
1:35—Our Town Speaks
2:00—Metropolitan Opera
2:45—Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen
3:00—The Vagabonds
3:15—Musical Program
3:30—Harry Warner — Sports
3:45—Communism
4:00—Gridiron Victors
7:15—Bands of the Land
8:00—Ross Dolan, Detective
8:30—To Be Announced
9:00—Gangbusters
9:30—Murder and Mr. Malone
10:00—Professor Quiz
10:30—Hayloft Hoedown
11:00—News of Tomorrow
11:15—Tris Coffin in Washington
11:30—Gems for Thought
11:35—Hotel Ambassador Orchestra

AIR FORCES VETERAN PILOT WILL ATTEMPT NEW ALTITUDE MARK

Raymond Schlachter, Lexington, Ky., pilot, and Air Forces veteran, will attempt to break the world's altitude record for his type plane in a flight from Bluenthal field in the next

several weeks, James Pennington, New Hanover county field base operator revealed yesterday.

He said the Schlachter will use an Aerosop plane, which is being rebuilt and having a "souped-up" engine installed by Pennington. Schlachter hopes to eclipse the present record of 26,404 feet by ascending to a height of 28,000 feet.

GROWERS WARNED ON DAMPING-OFF

Dr. Mitchell Jenkins Advises Immediate Use Of Fermate Drench

Lettuce growers of the Cape Fear valley were advised today by Dr. Mitchell Jenkins, horticulturist in charge of the vegetable Research laboratory here, to use the Fermate drench for control of damping-off in plant beds as soon as the beds are seeded and the plants begin to emerge. He predicted damping-off may be more severe than usual this year because of the wet weather that has prevailed during much of the fall season.

The drench recommended by Dr. Jenkins is made by mixing one pound of Fermate with 100 gallons of water. The mixture is applied at the rate of one gallon to each two square yards of bed area. And ordinary watering can may be used to apply the drench or it may be sprayed through a coarse spary nozzle.

Dr. Jenkins says it should be applied as soon as the plants begin to come up and once each week thereafter until the plants are ready to set in the field. The treatment must be started before the disease appears, he warns, as it is not effective after damping-off has begun to kill the plants.

Other Steps

Other steps recommended to help in the control of damping-off include treating the seed before planting with either spergon or cuprocid, and locating the bed where it will be well drained and exposed to sunlight as much as possible. Seed should be planted rather thinly but evenly.

Dr. Jenkins recommends that growers have their soil tested for acidity and that they apply dolomitic limestone or basic slag to remedy the acidic condition if indicated. Application of limestone should be well in advance of planting time if possible, he says.

Varieties of lettuce most adaptable for this area are Imperial 847 and Great Lakes varieties, according to the horticulturist.

JURY DEBATES WEST WILL CASE WITHOUT REACHING DECISION

NEW BERN, Nov. 14—(P)—A Superior court jury deliberated three and a half hours without reaching a verdict today in the suit brought by Millard Stanley West of Wilmington, Ohio, to break the will of his father, James M. West, millionaire bus line executive.

Judge J. Paul Frizelle recessed court late this afternoon until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow. The trial began Oct. 6.

West was left only \$100 in the will. His stepmother and her daughter were left the bulk of the \$1,500,000 estate in a trust fund. The younger West contended his father was mentally incompetent when the will was made.

REV. EDWARDS TO BID FAREWELL SUNDAY TO FIFTH AVENUE CHURCH

The Rev. J. R. Edwards, only local Methodist minister to be moved by the recent Conference meeting assignments, will preach his final sermons at the Fifth Avenue Methodist church here Sunday morning and evening.

Pastor of the Fifth Avenue Methodist church for the past two years, the Rev. Edwards came here from Clinton where he was pastor of the Clinton Methodist church, and goes to Roanoke Rapids where he has been appointed pastor of the First Methodist church.

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make our troubles a source of strength to others." His evening talks in the mission series were concluded at the service at St. James church at 8 p. m.

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