

HOSTILE VALLEY

by
Ben Ames Williams

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WNU Service.

They exhausted the subject presently, and must by and by have forgotten it. But a little before noon, when he was done fishing, Saladine, mistaking Will Ferrin's directions and seeking the road to Carey's, took the way in to Marm Pierce's farm instead, and so came to the house divided. Marm Pierce and Jenny were in the dining room when rain suddenly began to fall. Jenny rose to close a window, and as she did so, Saladine came running around the house to take shelter on the porch; and Jenny called over her shoulder:

"Granny, here's that man I see down brook!" They saw him pass the windows and go toward the kitchen door, and the girl made haste to open to him there.

When Saladine thus saw Jenny again, he was surprised afresh at her beauty, and amused at this second encounter. The rain had wetted him.

"Come in and set," Jenny invited him. "Till the rain's done. Yo're soaked through!" She pushed the screen door wide.

"I'll drip on your floors," Saladine pointed out. "And it's not cold! I'll stay here on the porch till it passes. Then maybe you can put me on the way to Carey's."

"Come in, come in!" Marm Pierce insisted. "Water won't hurt the floors, and you'll catch your death out there!"

So he leaned the loose sections of his disjointed rod against the weather-boarded wall and stepped into the kitchen. "I fished down brook, after I saw you," he said to the girl. "It's all a bog, below there. I got enough of that, and cut back up to the road. Will Ferrin told me to take the first road right . . ."

When he spoke that name, the girl's pulse caught, then pounded in a quicker beat. To think suddenly of Will could always shake her long composure. She stepped back, into the shadowed end of the kitchen by the sink; but Marm Pierce—she had put aside her knitting—came out from the dining room and said briskly:

"Chunk up the fire, Jenny," and to Jim: "You get up close and dry."

Jenny obeyed, glad of this pretext of activity; and Saladine told them his name and errand here. "The road in here fooled me," he explained. "I thought it'd bring me to Carey's. It looks like a traveled road."

She nodded, with clucking chuckle. "Tis!" she agreed. "A lot of people come in here, take it by and large!"

"Why?"

Her little black eyes twinkled at him. "If you lived anywhere around here, you'd have heard of Marm Pierce," she told him, a crotchety pride in her tones. "Folks come to me for doctoring. Yarbs and simples. I've healed a pile of hurts in my day."

"A real doctor can't make a living here, so they come to me, and pay me with help in hay time, or they get my wood in, and do the chores that's too heavy for Jenny."

"It must be hard for just the two of you," he hazarded.

Marm Pierce eyed him shrewdly. "Now yo're wishing you dast ask questions," she guessed. "You've got eyes in your head to see the looks of this house, and you've got a head on you to wonder about the why of it!"

She related, almost proudly, her ancient stubborn quarrel with her brother. He said, amused:

"Looks to me you cut off your own nose to spite your face!"

"Folks get so they hanker for a

fight, around here," Marm Pierce declared. "Quarreling with your kin comes natural in Hostile Valley. I take a heap of satisfaction out of seeing the Win-side of this house go to rot and ruin. Serves him right, I say!"

"He around?" Saladine asked. "He sneaks back, onct in so often, to see to't I'm letting things alone," she said. "Or he says that's why." Her tone was dry with scorn.

Then old Marm Pierce asked: "You say you come in by Will's?" And at his assent, she said: "Will's a fine man! He deserves better!" Saladine explained: "I left my car at Will's. Mis' Ferrin showed me the path down to the brook."

Marm Pierce's tone was suddenly unfriendly. "Guess likely you visited with her for a spell?" Saladine shook his head; and the other said tartly: "It's a wonder she let you get away!"

Continued next week.

Silks and Satins, Scarlets and Velvets, put out the kitchen fire.

GENERAL NEWS

STORMS COST LIVES

Winds and floods in Canada and the northeastern United States took at least nineteen lives and did other great damage. Homes were destroyed, trees blown down, communications cut off, and freezing cold added to the danger and suffering. The Hudson river on New York, the Connecticut in Connecticut, and the Merrimac in New Hampshire were among the larger streams which rose to flood stage. President Roosevelt has authorized the use of more than \$5,000,000 of federal funds in work relief in the stricken area.

NEGRO COFESSSES MURDER

Arthur Tate, negro man of 29, has confessed the murder of Alexander Warren, 18, on the night of February 28, and also the assault of Tate's companion, Miss Helen Phelps. He claims to have had an accomplice, but the young woman says she saw only one man, who jerked open the door of the car, shot her companion and pulled her from the vehicle. The killer was at one time cook at East Carolina Teachers College, but was discharged some weeks before the crime. He was arrested in Greenville.

RIVER TRADE RESUMED

Commerce between Wilmington and Fayetteville by way of the Cape

TATE THEATRE

Again Today & Sat.
King of Burlesque
WARNER BAXTER
ALICE FAYE
JACK OAKIE

Also
March of Time & News

Sun. - Mon. - Tues.

Myrna Loy
SPENCER TRACY in
"WHIPSAW"
Also Hit & Run Driver
Specialty & News

Beginning Wednesday
EDDIE CANTOR in
"Strike Me Pink"
with Ethel Merman
Parkyakarkus & The
Goldwyn Girls - Also
Color Cartoon & News

Fear river has been resumed after an interval of 13 years. The first boat in the new system passed up the river on Friday of last week, a tow boat drawing a barge loaded with 200,000 gallons of gasoline and kerosene. Deepening the river channel and building locks to insure the depth of water allowed the resumption of shipping.

WHITLEY LEAVES WPA POST

Phil Whitley of Wendell has resigned his position as director of WPA work in district no. 3. He will be succeeded by E. C. Dorsey of Henderson. Mr. Whitley has issued a statement that he is resigning for personal and private interests, but many believe that reasons public and political have had much weight. He has been highly commended for his work with the federal government.

SAY EETHER NOW

Estelle B. Hunter, educational director of Better Speech Insti-

tute of America states that simpler words and construction of sentences with changing pronunciations are gaining favor in this country. She says that "diction'ry", "cemet'ry" and such words are better pronounced with all syllables used. Finally, "eether" and "neether" are held preferable to "eyether" and "nyether."

Road Deaths Drop

Traffic accidents in North Carolina decreased by 46 during January and February as compared with the same period in 1935. A comparative drop of 17 was shown for February alone. However, there was a total number of accidents this February of 444 as compared with 375 for the corresponding month last year. An interesting feature of the record is that there was not a single woman involved in a fatal accident during February.

Mrs. Jodie Wells of Wendell, formerly of Wakefield, has had a

serious operation in Rex Hospital and is now said to be improving, which is good news to her many friends here.

WENDELL THEATRE

WENDELL, N. C.

Program for week of March 20

FRIDAY MARCH 20th
JACK HOLT in

Storm Over The Andes

SATURDAY MARCH 21
"BIG BOY" WILLIAMS in
Thunder Over Texas

MON. & TUES. MARCH 23-24

Remember Last Night

with EDWARD ARNOLD & CONSTANCE CUMMINGS
WED. (Bargain Day) March 25
FRED MacMURRAY & CAROLE LOMBARD in

Hands Across The Table

Matinee 3:30 — 10c to all
Night 7:00 & 9:00 — 10c & 15c

THURS. & FRI. March 26-27
GINGER ROGERS in
"IN PERSON"



SPECIAL at the ZEBULON BEAUTY SHOP

Mrs. R. E. Barnes herself will give FOR TEN DAYS

EUGENE PERMANENTS AT \$3.50

Oil O'Castor Permanent \$2.50

Miss Nellie Pearl Bryant

Miss Louise Hayes

\$25.00 for a HEN!

JUST 35 MORE DAYS TO WIN IT!

The Zebulon Record

Is an 8-page weekly newspaper with a monthly 12-page photographic supplement. It will GIVE a YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION to any one bringing any kind of a hen. One man has paid for 3 years with 3 hens. You can pay old or new subscriptions with hens. Receipts given on delivery. First Largest Hens Get Prizes.

\$50⁰⁰ IN CASH PRIZES

1st Prize For Largest Hen -- \$25.00

2nd Prize For 2nd Largest -- \$10.00

3rd Prize For 3rd Largest -- \$ 5.00

And Ten 4th Prizes Of \$1.00 Each

will be given absolutely free in addition to the Record, as follows: The weight of all hens will be kept and at the end of campaign, judges selected will award the prizes.

Hens may be delivered any day during the contest at the following places and stores:

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| Bailey—Baker | Pearces—Perry |
| Bethany Community—Robertson | Pilot—Stallings |
| Broadway Community—Allen | Pine Ridge—Mullins |
| Bunn—Weathers | Rileys—Johnsons |
| Corinth—Holder—O'Neal | Hiley Hill—Weathers |
| Eagle Rock—Martin | Rolesville—H. E. Perry |
| Hopkins X Roads—Bunn | Samaria—Morgan & Frazier |
| Knightdale—Robertson | Union Hope—W. E. Brantley |
| Middlesex—Bunn & Co. | Wake X Roads—Jones |
| Mitchells Mill—Perry & Son | Wendell—Marshbourn's |
| Mt. Pleasant—Brannon & Son | Wilder's Grove—Wilder |
| New Hope—Perry's; Stallings | |