

and be Love PEGGY DERA

place here-"

of you, Larry," Meg said quietly. "That's not enough," he replied, "Is there some one else?" No one else, Megan assured him, but he knew she did not love him enough. They decided to call off their engagement and wait another year. Jim MacTavish did not like that arrangement. Mrs. Stuart was first to tell Megan that her father was "running after" Alicia, and that it was "the talk of the town." Megan could not believe itdidn't want to believe it. "Folks is talkin' about Mist' Jim and Miz Stevenson,' Old Annie confirmed. Annie left a shirt of her father's and Meg picked it up. There was lipstick on it. She mentioned it to Jim that night.

CHAPTER IX

The next morning when she was assembling the laundry, Annie came to Megan carrying a shirt of Jim's and held it out, saying in that colorless voice, "Do I wash dis one, Miss Meggie?"

Megan looked at the shirt, puzzled. And then she saw the unmistakable signs of lipstick on the collar! That of course, had been the reason Annie had brought the shirt to herso that she might see the lipstick

Megan drew a breath and said quietly, "Of course, Annie-what a silly question!"

Megan sat quietly, her hands clenched in her lap. But after all there was surely no reason why her father should not see Alicia Stevenson, if he liked-even to the extent of getting her lipstick on his shirt collar! Alicia was a widow, Jim a widower.

But that night when Annie and Amos had departed for their own two-room cabin at the back of the barn, and Megan and her father were alone in the house, Megan said quietly, "I understand, Dad, that you've been seeing a lot of Mrs. Stevenson?"

Jim looked up at her from his newspaper, and his eyes darkened with anger. "Have you any objections?" he demanded curtly.

"None at all," she answered him evenly. "It's just that I was a little surprised, that's all—to hear a thing like that from the neighbors, instead of from you-"

"A thing like what?" Jim's anger had deepened. "You sound as though I'd been conducting an-er -affair with a very charming and pleasant woman."

"I know nothing al that—it seems people are talking—" "Pleasant Grove people? Do you think I give a darn what the-scum

in this place talk about?" "They are my friends," she point-

ed out. "That's your own fault," he reminded her. "You don't have to live in this-this hick hole! You had a chance to get out of it-" "We're getting away from the

subject, don't you think?" "If you're prying, trying to find out about my intentions towards Mrs. Stevenson," Jim said distinctly, a little malicious light in his eyes, "I have no objection to telling you the truth. I hope to marry Mrs. Stevenson-as soon as I can persuade her! She's selling her place.

py here, don't you?" "You would bring her-here?" Megan gasped, appalled.

and I think we can make her hap-

Jim's eyebrows went up in pretended surprise, though his eyes laughed at her.

"And where else would a man take his wife, if not to his own home?" he asked. "You aren't forgetting that it is my own homequite as much as it is yours?"

Megan sat very still, stunned with the unexpectedness of the blow.

"Of course," Jim went on after a moment, "when Matthews was so sure he could get seven thousand to keep her place and live there, because her place won't bring over two or three thousand. But when you decided not to sell-well, Alicia gave the listing of hers to Matthews, and we feel sure that we can all be quite cozy here together."

Megan drew a hard breath. "You know that wouldn't work out, Dad,"

she said. "I can't see why not! There is surely ample room-four big bedrooms upstairs, five rooms downstairs-why, there's room enough here for half a dozen people-"

"If there were forty rooms, there wouldn't be enough room under one roof for Alicia Stevenson and me both!" Megan told him rashly.

"I think you're taking a very unreasonable attitude, my dear," said her father gently, malice twinkling in his eyes. "After all, having Alicia here will make things much easier for you. She will take over the mangement of the house, while you can give all your time to your beloved farming! I think it will be a

very good arrangement, all around." "It's an impossible arrangement and you know it," Megan told him hotly.

He shrugged ever so slightly and said gently, "Oh, well, if you are going to take that attitude-" He pretended to lose interest, but Megan knew that he was alert, that he was waiting tensely for her answer.

"I know why you are doing this, Father," she said at last, one of the few times in her life calling him "Father" instead of the more en-

THE STORY THUS FAR: "I'm fond | force me to consent to selling the | woman-and your father is lone-

"But, my dear girl, I thought we'd settled all that," he pointed out gent-"That's the reason Alicia decided that she might as well let Matthews see what he could do with

silly to keep both-" "And you wouldn't consider sharing her place?" Megan could not farm, or go away from it." Tom stop the words in time, and knew that a frantic hope threaded them.

the sale of her place. When you come

to think of it, it would be rather

"My dear!" her father protested, hurt. "What do you take me for? A man without pride, or the natural desire to take care of his wife? Most certainly I wouldn't consider moving into Alicia's place. This one is much larger and more comfortable and there's plenty of room. No, I think the whole arrangement is ideal. You are always so overworked with the outdoor labor in spring and summer, that I think it will be very nice to have the worry and responsibility of the housekeeping taken off your shoulders."

"It won't work, Father," she told



There was something in the stealth, the furtiveness of his tread on the stairs-

"No?" His tone and smile were tantalizing.

"No! I'm not selling! And that's that!" she told him again, her jaw hard and set, her voice unshaken.

She got up suddenly and caught her sweater. The night was mild for winter, yet there was a dampness and a chill in it that made the sweater, and the scarf about her head very welcome, as she stepped from the back door into the yard.

The meadow was washed with thin cold moonlight, but under the trees the darkness was so intense that she had to feel her way from moonlit patch to moonlit patch-until she reached the flat stone beneath the tallest pine; and as she reached it, her heart turned over in her breast, and terror clutched at her, for a shadow moved in the darkness, and she knew that she was not alone. The next moment the shadow had moved swiftly into a patch of moonlight, and she saw it white on Tom Fallon's face."

"I frightened you-I'm sorry-" Megan managed an unsteady for this place, Alicia and I planned laugh. "And I imagine I frightened you, too," she answered him.

> "Well, as a matter of fact, you did," he admitted. Then as the moonlight touched her white face he added hurriedly, concerned: "Why, what's happened? You're ill-"

> "Oh, no-just-well, upset-and ever since I was a child I have brought my troubles, big and little, to this spot and tried to find a way out of them! It's a habit that's hard to break," she added with an attempted gaiety that had an almost macabre quality.

"Could-a friend help?" She shook her head.

"I-I'm afraid nobody can, really -that is, the only two people who can have no intention of doing it. I sound as confused and mixed up as I feel-so if you could just overlook

And to Megan's own horror, and Tom's shocked surprise, she burst

After a stunned moment, Tom put his arm about her and held her close as though she were a frightened, bewildered child, and his soothing words were the words one would have used to a grieving child.

"My father is going to marry Alicia Stevenson," she told him, and so strong was the bond of friendship between them that it did not occur to her to be surprised that she should confide in him.

She heard him swear under his breath, but after a moment, he tried to offer comfort. "Well, of course dearing "Dad." "You think you will I suppose she's a very attractive

"And she is selling her place and coming to live with us," she went "Oh, good Lord, you can't live

with her-" "Either that, or I have to agree to sell the farm, and she and father

will live in her house." "And you don't want to sell the understood that without any words from her. "I've gathered since I've known you how much the place

means to you-" She found it very soothing to sit to discover that they knew each other well enough for silence to be pleasant and companionable so that speech was unnecessary.

Gradually the silence and peace of the moon-silvered pines seemed to drift into her heart; her spirits lifted a little. Someday, somehow, she would find a solution to the problems that now loomed so terribly strong and black and evil. Perhaps it was only that she was emotionally exhausted and had reached a place where she was conscious only of a lack of emotion that had replaced her grief.

They talked quietly, after that interval of peace and stillness. She asked about Martha and he told her that Martha had completely recovered. She asked hesitantly about Mrs. Fallon, and Tom told her, his mouth taut and tired, that there was no change there

"She's - completely helpless, of course, and there is no change mentally," he added wearily. "You mean-she can't leave her

bed? Can't get around by herself?" asked Megan, remembering, with a feeling of chill, the morning when she had sat here and had watched that grotesquely posturing figure on the back lawn.

"She hasn't been out of bed in months and months," he told her heavily. "The doctors say that there is a thin chance of her recovery. That's why we can't bear to-send her away. If I had the money to pay for a private sanitarium-" He shrugged and his hands clenched into hard, tight fists. "But I can't turn her over to a state institution. Not while there is the smallest, faintest, tiniest hope that she can be made well again."

Megan asked uneasily, "But shouldn't she be having treatments?"

She's had treatments for the past four years," Tom answered wearily. "Everything possible has been done, and a few months ago the doctors told me that the only hope was to get her away somewhere quiet, among new scenes, and just try to build up her physical condition. That might help to restore the lost mental health, but they couldn't guarantee it. She-went to pieces when our son was born-dead."

Megan said, her voice shaken and sorry-"

Unconsciously, she had put out her hand to touch him, and as his hand closed over it and held it hard for a something-she couldn't be sure

They were still for a little, and Megan wondered uneasily about his saying that his wife had not been out of bed in months. She knew that she had seen her, a slim white form, the sunlight gleaming gold on her head, dancing a weird, grotesque dance—a dance interrupted by Martha, who had taken the white figure into the house.

Did Tom know, she wondered? Did he try to conceal the fact that his wife was not a helplessly bedridden invalid, in the hope of convincing people that, while she was a "mental case," she was complete- | decorative detail that will make the ly harmless? Of course he and Martha were doing everything humanly possible to keep anybody in Pleasant Grove from knowing that his wife was a "mental case"-

She stood up suddenly and said, "I have to go-I shouldn't have come, at all, but habit is strong." "I'm glad you did," Tom told her quietly. "And I hope you didn't

mind finding me here." "Of course not. There's room on the Ridge for both of us-and who knows? Maybe we'll both find solutions to our problems here," she answered as she turned to go. "No,

you mustn't come with me-" "Only to the fence," Tom told her. 'From there on, you have the moonlight clear to your back door and I can watch until you go into the house and know that you're safe."

There was a look in his face that made the protest stop on her lips. She nodded and they walked together to the fence. When she had crossed the meadow and stood at the little foot-log that bridged the small, busy creek, she turned to look back and saw him still standing there. She threw up her arms in a little gesture that said good night and caught the flicker of his return gesture. And then with her heart considerably lighter than it had been when she left the house, she went back in and up the stairs to her own

The house was dark and silent. There was no thread of light beneath her father's door, and she was surprised, when she reached her own room, to discover that she'd been gone two hours.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Woman's World Selection of Suitable Fabric

By Ertta Haley

WHEN children are growing by leaps and bounds, it's sometimes a difficult job to keep up their wardrobes. If the mother is handy with the needle, the youngster is lucky because he or she can always be kept in suitable toggery.

Just consider the position of the average family. Dad's shirts can always be converted into boy's shirts for junior, pinafores or dresses and blouses can also be used here with him. It was surprising for dresses, blouses and skirts for the younger girls.

When making clothing for the younger members, particularly in using old material, suitability should be carefully considered. Some plaids and prints used for mother's dresses or dad's shirts may be perfectly stunning on the adult, but very poor for the young child.

If there is enough fabric only for a skirt, make that out of plain or print, with little straps if there is enough material, and let the child wear a blouse of contrasting mate-

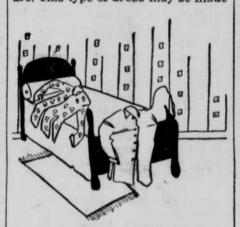
Classic Styles Popular

For Girl's Dresses

Fortunately little girl's dresses vary little from year to year. You can buy several good basic patterns and use them again and again, with just slight variations. If you are good at alteration, you might even use these patterns for several years, simply taking them in when you first get them, and then letting them out after a few months or years as the girl grows.

Jumpers with several changes of blouses are very much acceptable for the girl under and slightly over 10. If you are using a heavy material such as corduroy, be sure that the lines of the garment follow the rule of strict simplicity.

Princess style dresses with buttons all the way down the front are very attractive on the immature figure. This type of dress may be made



If you have some old shirts . . .

in any type of material and may also have a variety of trimmings. You'll want contrasting color tape on some, bric-a-brac on others and take, always select a sturdy mateperhaps embroidery on still others | rial that will not lose its color or ragged with pity, "I'm so terribly if you have the time and are so inclined.

Growing girls particularly need gored or full skirts, the basque type being very popular. It will particumoment, she heard him mutter larly please them if the garment has of wearability is suitable for the some grown-up feature like a plain colored bodice with a matching print in the skirt.

If your youngster is old enough, let her work out some of the decorative details of the dress herself. She may be interested in sewing a feather-stitch around a full skirt, for example; or perhaps, she has learned some interesting weaving or braiding at school with which she might like to trim the collar, pockets or sleeves.

Speaking of pockets, these are a very handy feature in the youngster's dress. Children just adore them, and they can easily carry



Use them for daughter's dress.

dress unusually attractive and endearing to the little girl.

If you are making a dress out of old things of your own or out of dad's shirts, and find that you are short of material, you might try a band along the hem, around the sleeves and neck in a contrasting color. This will not only add length to the dress, but is a very smart feature in youngster's clothing. If the girl is in the under 10 group

and you are making skirts and

Sashed Slimness



A sashed waistline slims this full skirted sun-dress. Slit pockets are set in at the rounded hipline and the low-square neckline is held up by a wide halter. The jacket and top of the dress are made of red and "white coffee" striped balloon cloth.

blouses for her, consider them as separate garments. When you finish them, however, sew a tape around the waist of the skirt and place button holes all around it. Then sew buttons on the blouse so that the two can be attached together. In this way you prevent the blouse from gaping from underneath the skirt, and this is especially important if the girl likes active play.

Shirtwaist effects are popular in this age group and many tailored dresses can be concocted from shirts. If you have a blue or white shirt, parts of this might be made into the bodice and the sleeves while another shirt in a print might be used for the skirt.

Buttons are used extensively on children's garments because they are easy for the youngster to manipulate. Furthermore, they are economical and add decoration even to the simple dress.

Because of the many washings which children's garments must firmness of weave. A chiffon dress may be available for remodeling and it might occur to you to make a youngster's dress out of it. but neither the material nor its lack active girls under the age of 10.

Ironing Tricks

To iron sports dresses or blouses with an action back, use the small end of the ironing board. Iron the gathers toward the yoke then turn and face to the wide end of the board so you can iron down from the yoke to the waist.

When ironing seams, nose the iron under the seams (on the wrong side) to eliminate seam marks. When skirts are completely ironed, turn to the right side and finish off such details as lapels, pockets, cuffs and hem.

When gored skirts are cut on the bias, iron with the weave of the cloth, keeping them smooth and free of bulges at the seam. Iron gently, smoothing the fabric as you go along, and do not pull.

Pockets are important! Poorly ironed, they look like something that does not belong to the dress. Turn the garment to the wrong side, then to the right side and press carefully into place. Avoid a limp, hang-dog look in pockets.

To iron zipper plackets, close the zipper first and iron close to the zipper with the nose of the iron. Smooth out wrinkles on the zipper tape, but never iron directly on the zipper itself.

Iron tucks slowly until absolutley dry. For vertical tucks, pull taut and iron lengthwise. On horizontal tucks, start at the top and iron downward.

Summer Fashion Notes

beauty in summer styles; stress and neat looking. Look for intermedium prints rather than too large

Bathing suits are here to cater to each taste. There are very brief ones for sun-tanning; there are oth- ties, particularly if you change at ers that cover more of you if you want to be conservative, like the beach. They're also protective when one-piece type, or the two-piece you don't want to expose yourself with bloomers, skirt and halter top. to too much sun.

Simplicity of line offers real | Striped dresses are always cool esting buttons to relieve the tailored

Beach coats are popular, too, and a definite must for bathing activihome and want to walk to the SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

election of Suitable Fabric

Round Yoked Dress Hattering

Simple Style for Young Girls



Flattering Frock

AS PRETTY a summer frock as you'll see is this flattering yoke charmer that makes up so nicely in contrasting fabrics. Wide extended shoulders accent a tiny waist, darts insure a neat fit. Try it in a heavenly pink stripe with a plain fabric or white eyelet for yoke and sleeves, and trim with oversize ric rac.

Pattern No. 1527 comes in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 40 and 42. Size 14 requires 23% yards of fabric in 35 or 39-inch for lower part of dress; 34 yard for contrasting yoke and sleeves.

sleeves are cool and comfortable, and she's sure to like the full skirt and narrow belt that ties in back. Why not make it now to have ready when the first day of school rolls around. Pattern No. 8021 is for sizes 6, 8, 16, 12, and 14 years. Size 8 requires 2 yards of 36 or 39-inch fabric; 3½ yards ric rac. Send your order to:

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT. 530 South Wells St. Chicago 7, IM.

Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.

Pattern No ...

is smart to let the first coat dry mation of hard-water scale. ten days before applying the sec-

In building a casement window in the kitchen remember that it should open out, not in. And the base should be at least a foot above the sink.

When game is on the menu, avoid handling before cooking by flouring this way: Put a small amount of flour in a paper sack, pour in the pieces of meat and shake the bag until each piece is well coated with flour.

To soften putty for removal from window panes, draw a hot soldering iron over the material, being careful to keep the heat away from the glass. Most putty, however, when it needs to be replaced, can be removed with a small screw-

If you prefer to close up the shelves where your canned goods are stored, try this trick. Fasten worn out window shades, still on rollers, to the top shelves and pull down to desired length.

If you're planning to paint your | The oyster shell is good for somehouse this summer and intend to thing. Put it in the bottom of the do the work yourself, remember it | tea kettle and it will prevent for-





Keeps for weeks ON YOUR PANTRY SHELF



NOW! Bake any time ... at a moment's notice with

Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast



If you bake at home-baking day is any day you feel like it, with Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast. Easy-to-use, extra-fast, Fleischmann's Fast Rising stays fresh, full strength for weeks on your pantry shelf. Always ready for instant action. Get Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast today. The menfolk will brag about your baking more than ever. At your grocer's.