

# ONE OF OURS

By WILLA CATHER.  
Famous Nebraska Author.

(Continued From Saturday.)

SYNOPSIS  
Claude Wheeler, son of a Nebraska rancher, is disappointed in wedded life with Edith Royce, religiously cold daughter of Jason Royce, Frankfort, Neb. After a year and a half together she goes to China, where her younger sister, Caroline, a missionary, is ill. Claude goes to officers' training camp and is commissioned a lieutenant. He had three years in a small denominational college in Lincoln, where he became a friend of the Erlich family, motherly widow and five sons. He has friends in Ernest Havel and Leonard Dawson, young farmers and neighbors of the Wheeler family. He has an older brother, Bayless, in business in Frankfort, his father, Nat, and a younger brother, Ralph. While home on leave from camp he falls in love with Gladys Farmer, high school friend of his wife. Claude leaves with his company for Europe and after two weeks of intensive training in France, they leave for the front. Claude is dispatched with an important message to division headquarters, several miles behind the lines. In a village devastated by the Germans, here he picks up acquaintance with Louis, a French soldier who has lost an arm in the war, and Mlle. de Courcy, charming young French woman. He becomes deeply interested in Mlle. de Courcy. Claude and Sergeant Hicks leave for the front lines by night. Claude and Gerhardt, young American lieutenant with 100 men, put to rest a nest of German machine guns. Claude is killed in the attack by an exploding shell and his gear, on 10 days' leave, returns to the home of M. and Madame Joubert in a French village where they were billeted a short time before going to the front.

Gerhardt knocked out his pipe and

lying across my knee, was smashed into a thousand pieces. I didn't know what it meant then; but since, I've seen so many beautiful old things smashed . . . I've become a fatalist."

Claude watched his brooding head against the gray flint rock.

"You ought to have kept out of the whole thing. Any army man would say so."

David's head went back against the boulder, and he threw one of the chestnuts lightly into the air. "Oh, one violinist more or less doesn't matter! But who is ever going back to anything? That's what I want to know!"

Claude felt guilty; as if David must have guessed what apostasy had been going on in his own mind this afternoon. "You don't believe we are going to get out of this war what we went in for, do you?" he asked suddenly.

"Absolutely not," the other replied with cool indifference.

"Then I certainly don't see what you're here for!"

"Because in 1917 I was 24 years old, and able to bear arms. The war was put up to our generation. I don't know what for; the sins of our fathers, probably. Certainly not to make the world safe for democracy, or any rhetoric of that sort. When I was doing stretcher work, I had to tell myself over and over that nothing would come of it, but that it had to be done. Sometimes, though, I think something must be done. Nothing we expect, but something unforeseen." He paused and shut his eyes. "You remember in the old mythology tales

how, when the sons of the gods were born, the mothers always died in agony? Maybe it's only Semele I'm thinking of. At any rate, I've sometimes wondered whether the young men of our time had to die to bring a new idea into the world . . . something Olympian. I'd like to know. I think I shall know. Since I've been over here this time, I've come to believe in immortality. Do you?"

Claude was confused by this quiet question. "I hardly know. I've never been able to make up my mind."

"Oh, don't bother about it! If it comes to you, it comes. You don't have to go after it. I arrived at it in quite the same way I used to get things in art—knowing them and living on them before I understood them. Such ideas used to seem childish to me." Gerhardt sprang up. "Now, have I told you what you want to know about my case?" He looked down at Claude with a curious air of amusement and affection. "I'm going to stretch my legs. It's 4 o'clock."

The next day was Claude's 25th birthday, and in honor of that event Papa Joubert produced a bottle of old Burgundy from his cellar, one of a few dozen he had laid in for great occasions when he was a young man. During that week of idleness at Madame Joubert's, Claude often thought that the period of "happy youth," about which his old friend had said so much. Nothing he had never experienced, was being made up to him now. He was having his youth in France. He knew that

nothing like this would ever come again; the fields and woods would never again be laced over with this hazy enchantment. As he came up the village street in the purple evening, the smell of wood-smoke from the chimneys went to his head like a narcotic, opened the pores of his skin, and sometimes made the tears come to his eyes. Life had after all turned out well for him, and everything had a noble significance. The nervous tension in which he had lived for years now seemed incredible to him . . . absurd and childish, when he thought of it at all. He did not torture himself with recollections. He was beginning over again.

In the years when he went to school in Lincoln, he was always hunting for some one whom he could admire without reservations; some one he could envy, emulate, wish to be. Now he believed that even then he must have had some faint pang of a man like Gerhardt in his mind. It was only in war times that their paths would have been likely to cross; or that they would have had anything to do together in any of the common interests that make men friends.

(Continued in The Morning Bee.)

## Our Children

### The Evening Hop.

The warm spring evenings bring out the children for their evening frolic. Sometimes its glee past bearing for the tired people resting on the porches or under the trees.

Somebody gets an old tin pail and begins kicking it along the walk. Its din is shattering. The grown ups along the street groan and murmur: "That's that awful Smith child. Believe me, if that child was mine, I'd warn him so he needn't take such strenuous exercise! On a hot summer evening, too!"

Noises like that are louder and harder to bear than they are on the cool nights. If children must run and race about in the twilight, which is doubtful, couldn't they have a ball? A soft ball that will not hurt if it hits a child in the dark, nor break windows that cannot be seen clearly.

On the lower corner there is a group playing with a dog. He barks through the house, lunging door after door and screaming as each slams behind them, is not the setting for quiet rest.

The harmonica concert, excruciating as it is, is understandable. The children are working off their last ounce of superfluous energy and doing it without violence. But the rac-

ing, howling group are getting past the fatigue points and they will be hard to quiet.

Consider the neighbors in the evening. Plan for a quiet bit of play. It will make life a little pleasanter.

### "Hootch Baby" Fails to Fool Atlanta Prohibition Sleuths

Atlanta, June 3.—A nose trained to the scenting of smells of a smoky nature, made famous by Bobby Burns, the Hags, the Yawsons, et al, caused the undoing of an enterprising and imaginative rum runner near here.

This worthy had a scheme, regarded as "fool-proof" by the elite of the rum-runners. But this little scheme failed to take into consideration the keen nose of officers.

"Is precious babykins cold?" almost whispered the girl in the front seat of the speeding car as they flew past the officers.

Then came the smoky smell. Then a chase.

A search that revealed 11 cases of liquor—good liquor—stacked in the back seat of the automobile.

The baby was a bundle of cloth—a veritable rag doll—that the woman tossed disgustively to the side of the road as the officers accompanied the couple to jail.

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**Egg Production Can Be Increased by Feeding Hens**  
Moulting Can Be Delayed and Laying Season Prolonged by Proper Feed in Summer Months.

The spring egg production might be prolonged and moulting delayed, in many cases, if the hens are properly fed during the early summer months, advises Clara M. Sutter, extension specialist in poultry.

"When the hens have exhausted the supply of green feed, scattered grains and seeds found on the range in the spring, dry mash should be placed in hoppers where the hens can help themselves. Whole grain should not be fed in the morning, as that is the time when the hen should be foraging; give a full feed of whole grain before roosting time. If milk is available, furnish all the hens will eat. Do not change from wheat one day to sour the next, for this sudden change often causes digestive troubles.

"Each dozen egg shells has an average weight of two and one-quarter ounces of lime, which means that the hen must have more than that, for some is used in the body growth. Plenty of grit or gravel should be furnished, as grit is the hen's teeth and she cannot digest her feed without it. Since the hen, in making an egg, uses 70 parts water to 20 of solid matter, she needs all the fresh, clean water that she cares to drink.

"If the hens are too fat and are not laying they are either too old, poor layers, or have too many grains and not enough protein (meat, tankage, milk, insects) to furnish the whites of the egg."

**Son of Former Governor Raises Fine Strawberries**  
Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Auburn, Neb., June 3.—J. S. Furnas of Brownville, son of the second governor of the state of Nebraska, has been in Auburn inviting his friends to come to his big fruit farm near Brownville and enjoy eating his strawberries. Mr. Furnas reports a wonderful crop of strawberries this year, and he says they are the best ever grown in eastern Nebraska.

**Barley Acreage Increased Over Prohibition Days**  
Consumption of barley by live stock has more than equaled the depression in demand for barley caused by the closing down of breweries, when the prohibition amendment became effective, according to a survey just completed by the United States Department of Agriculture, and at present there is a greater acreage of barley than ever in Nebraska.

**Stella Hessian Fly Damage Estimated at 20 Per Cent**  
Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Stella, Neb., June 3.—Conservative estimates place Hessian fly damage in this locality at 20 per cent. Some are plowing up as much as 25 acres of wheat and other fields do not seem to be affected. Early planted grain on old wheat stubble is worst affected.

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**Gage County Fair Society Will Build New Buildings**  
Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Beatrice, Neb., June 3.—At a meeting of the directors of the Gage County Fair and Agricultural society, the building committee was authorized to spend \$12,000 during the coming summer for a stock pavilion and other buildings at the fair grounds. A contract was closed with a three-ring circus which will give daily exhibitions on the grounds.

**Cedar Bluffs Club Given Five Seals**  
Girls First to Receive Honor; Complete Two Cooking and Three Clothing Projects.

Five of the seven charter members of the Sunshine Sewing club of Cedar Bluffs, Neb., recently held their Achievement day and received their fifth achievement seal. These five girls are the first group to receive five seals in the boys and girls club demonstration work. They have completed satisfactorily two projects in cooking and three in clothing. They have been sponsored by the Woman's club of Cedar Bluffs, different members of which have been taken turns as leaders.

Five clubs at Ceresco also held their Achievement day recently. Forty-eight of the 51 girls entering these clubs finished their work under the guidance of the Woman's club of Ceresco. Two of these clubs were first year clothing clubs, two were second year clothing clubs and one was a hot lunch club.

These clubs are some of the many forms of standard 4 H clubs organized under the extent of the agricultural club extension service. In order to obtain a charter, each club must complete the first four of 10 goals. They must organize a club of five or more members between 10 to 15 years of age working on one project; and have a local leader in charge as general advisor. They must elect their own officers, who will take charge of business meetings, and they must outline a definite program and when this is done, they are granted a club charter. As the work progresses, they must hold at least six general sessions, one of which shall be a judging contest of the products they are producing, another a public demonstration by a team, and another a club exhibit of their work. At least 60 per cent of the club members must file satisfactory final reports before a seal of achievement is presented them at their Achievement day program.

**Wall Paper Retailer Says Prices Going Up**

Fred Parks, who operates the largest retail wall paper and paint store in Omaha at 4708 South Twenty-fourth street, has put on an extra force of paperhangers to take care of the extraordinary amount of work in this line being done now.

Mr. Parks says the price of wall paper is sure to go higher, because of the increased cost of materials and labor and that people who do their paperhanging this year will save money.

"Our men do work in any part of greater Omaha and we can do jobs within two days after the order is placed with us," said Mr. Parks.

**Hessian Fly Kills Wheat, Auburn Farmers Report**  
Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Auburn, Neb., June 3.—Some of the farmers in this part of the state are reporting the probable necessity of plowing under the wheat because of the Hessian fly. Some of the farmers, however, discourage this idea, contending that wheat ground plowed under now is not of any value for corn this year. Well posted farmers say, that after the ground has been sapped by a wheat crop to the extent of the growth of the present crop, the ground must pass through a winter before it is in shape for a corn crop.

**Crops and Soil Field Day Has Been Set for June 20**

Lincoln, June 3.—Annual Crops and Soil Field Day has been set for Wednesday, June 20, it was announced by the extension service of the College of Agriculture of the University of Nebraska. Visits will be made to the various experiment fields and the experts in charge of the various experiments are to discuss the experiments and results obtained.

The movies surely have a place in this world. Now they've made a hero of a postman in "Loyal Lives," a Whitman Bennett picture with Brandon Tynan and Mary Carr heading the cast.

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**English Living Goes Up With Pound Value**  
London, June 3.—The pound's rise in the New York market brings rejoicing to the financier, but it doesn't mean anything to the little fellow. Costs of living in England have advanced 33 per cent in the last year.

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