

# ONE OF OURS

By WILLA CATHER.  
Famous Nebraska Author.

(Continued from Yesterday.)

**SYNOPSIS.** Claude Wheeler, son of a Nebraska rancher, is disappointed in wedded life with his wife, who is a cold daughter of a cold father. After a year and a half together, she goes to China to visit her younger sister, Caroline, a missionary who is ill. Claude goes to army officers' training camp and is commissioned a lieutenant. He has a younger brother, Ray, in business in Frankfort, his father, and a younger brother, Ralph. While home on leave, Claude goes to France with his company, the 10th Central Postal Directory, to give a musical career to enter the army. He meets a girl, a French girl, who is slightly wounded in the ankle by an exploding shell. While on 10 day's leave he and Gerhardt visit Madame and Mlle. More, French friends of Gerhardt's while he was studying violin in France several years before. They rejoin their battalion and go to village of Beaufort. An American officer kills a French soldier and civilians in the town square, killing several and wounding others. Claude is shot in the chest by a bullet and a shot from Sergeant Hicks' rifle. Captain Blaylock is seriously wounded. Claude returns to the front and is ordered to hold a trench captured by the Americans with heavy casualties.

The shelling began again at day-break. It was hardest on the rear trenches and the three-mile area behind. Evidently the enemy felt sure of what he had in Moltke trench; he

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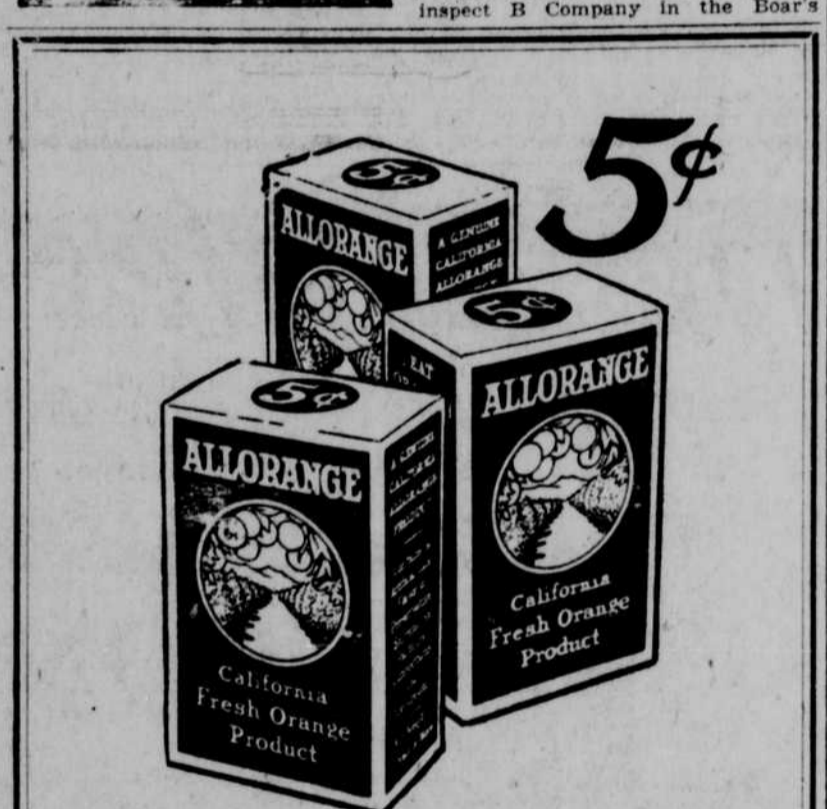


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# ALLORANGE

Head. He was especially pleased with the advantageous placing of the machine guns in the Snout. "I expect you'll have a quiet day," he said to the men, "but I wouldn't like to promise you a quiet night. You'll have to be very steady in here; if Fritz takes this loop, he's got us, you understand."

They had indeed, a quiet day. Some of the men played cards, and Oscar read his Bible. The night, too, began well. But at 4:15 everybody was roused by the gas alarm. Gas shells came over for exactly half an hour. Then the shrapnel broke loose; not the long, whizzing scream of solitary shells, but drum-fire, continuous and deafening. A hundred electrical storms seemed raging at once; in the air and on the ground. Balls of fire were rolling all over the place. The range was a little long for the Boar's Head; they were not getting the worst of it; but 30 yards back everything was torn to pieces. Claude didn't see how anybody could be left alive back there. A single twister had killed six of his men at the rear of the loop, where they were shoveling to keep the communication clear. Captain Owens' neat earthworks were being badly pounded.

Claude and Gerhardt were consulting together when the smoke and darkness began to take on the livid color that announced the coming of daybreak. A messenger ran in from the Colonel; the Missourians had not yet come up, and his telephone communication with them was cut off. He was afraid they had got lost in the bombardment. "The Colonel says you are to send two men back to bring them up; two men who can take charge if they're stampeded."

Claude turned and went back into the loop. Well, whatever happened, he had worked with brave men. It was worth having lived in this world to have known such men. Soldiers, when they were in a tight place, often made suggestions to God; and now he found himself offering thanks. If they would see to it that David came back. They could take the price out of him. He would pay. Did they understand? (Continued in The Morning Bee.)

## Beatrice Fairfax Problems That Perplex

Dear Miss Fairfax: Would it be foolish for a girl to marry a man five years her junior? Both are of good character. Both look the same age; she looks and acts especially young.

They have been going about together for four years. He has been extremely sincere and begs her not to let such a trifle interfere with their happiness. But she fears public opinion. EVELYN.

Public opinion in a question of this sort is not important. If the young couple were planning to do anything in bad taste or of questionable morality then "public opinion" (representing right and morality) would be a thing to respect and consider. But since the couple have love and understanding, the age question is no one's concern save their own, and since the young man thinks it a matter of no concern—that settles it! There is a lot in the old saying, "Be sure you're right. Then go ahead."

**The Divorced Woman.**  
Dear Miss Fairfax: I am 25. At a party six weeks ago I met a divorced woman of about 21 and we fell in love with each other, and we have been going out since then about twice a week, but the last time she asked me to introduce her to my parents and I told her perhaps later. But I

am sure that if I bring her up to my home and introduce her my parents will be against our marriage. What should I do? D. W.

Don't you consider the girl sufficiently worthy, tactful and charming to make a good impression on your parents? Her past unhappiness won't count against her if she is the sort of woman your parents would naturally be glad to see you marry. And the mere fact that she has asked to meet your people indicates that she has a true sense of the fitness of things and fine feelings besides. Do as she asks. Be honest with your people. And this is bound to lead to the true happiness that comes from square dealing.

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- Carl's Tires and Accessories, 1409 N. 18th St.
- Western Tire and Rubber Co., 6056 Military Ave.
- Portage Tire Market, 1611 Chicago
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