

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN

By Gene Stratton-Porter

(Continued from Yesterday.)

"No, I won't," said Junior, "because there's nothing you can do that will be half what I deserve."

When the little folks were asleep, and Mickey had helped Mrs. Harding finish the work, and Jud Jason had been paid \$5 for his contract and gone home, Junior lay in the hammock on the front porch, while his father, mother and Mickey sat close. When he started to speak, Peter said: "Now, Junior, just a minute! You've been gone a week, and in all that time I've used my brains more than I ever did in my life, period, even when I was courting your ma, and the subject I labored on was what took you away from us. I've found out why you were not satisfied, and what made you dissatisfied. The guilty party is Peter Harding, aided and abetted by one Nancy Harding, otherwise known as ma."

"My, father!" interrupted Junior.

"Silence," said Peter. "I've just found out that it's going to be a man's job to be the head of this family, and I'm going to be the head of mine after this, and like Mickey here, I'm going to keep it. Let me finish. I've spent this week thinking, and all the things I've thought would make a bigger book than the dictionary if they were set down. Why should I be forever having a desire to go to Multropolis when I carried you there as a baby, led you as a toddler, and went with you every chance I could turn up as a man? Who bought and fed you painted, adulterated candy as a child, when your ma should have made you pure, clean taffy at home from our maple syrup or good sugar as we could buy? Often I've spent money that should now be on interests, and I've looked fine to you there, and proved to be grainy, too mellow, sour or not half so good as what you had at home."

"I never took you hunting, or fishing, or camping, or swimming, in your life; but I haven't had a mate of trouble to find time and money to take you to circuses, which I don't remember. I'll do as many and as often as which I'll do alone, and other shows. I'm not condoning any form of amusement we ever patronized so much, we'll probably do all of it again; but what gets me now, is how I ever came to think that the only interesting things and those worth taking time and spending money on, were running to Multropolis, to eat, to laugh, to look, and getting little to show for it but expense and effort for all of us. You haven't had the only punishment that's struck the Harding family this week, Junior. Your ma and I have had our share, and I haven't asked her if she had got enough, but speaking strictly for myself, I have."

"I wouldn't live through it again for the farm," sobbed Mrs. Harding. "I see what you are getting at, pa, and I know who are the guilty parties, just as you say."

Junior sat up and stared at them.

"I don't so much regret the things I did," said Peter, "as I condemn myself for the things I haven't done. I

haven't taught you to ride so you don't look a spectacle on a horse, and yet horses should come as natural as breathing to you. You should be a skilled marksman; you couldn't hit a washbowl at 10 paces. You should swim like a fish, with a hundred lakes in your country; you've drawn water you were thrown in, in a cistern of one end left to the other. You ought to be able to row a boat as well as it can be done, and cast a line with all of the skill that any lad of your age possesses. That you can't make even a fair showing at any sport, results from the fact that every time your father had a minute to spare he'd sit down, and have a stretch for Multopolis. Here's the golf links at our door, and if ever any game was a farmer's game, and if any man has a right to hold up his head, and tramp his own hills, and swing a strong arm and a free one, it's a land owner. There's no reason why plowing and tilling should dull the brains bend the back, or make a packhorse of a man. Modern methods show you how to do the same work with less effort, how to use one machine instead of ten men, how to have time for a vacation, just as city men do, and how to have money for books, and music, and school, instead of loading with so much land it's a burden to pay the taxes. I have quite a bunch of land for sale, and I see a way open to make a fortune in the money saved, and with half the time and work. We've turned over a new leaf at this place, from start to finish, including the house, barn, land and family. A year from now you won't know any of us; but that later. Just now, it's this: I'm pointing out to you, Junior, exactly how you can have your banking for Multopolis. I see you, thinking, that all the amusing things were there, the smart people, the fine clothes, the wealth, and the freedom!"

"Yes, you ought to see the 'amusing things' and the 'happy people' when your stomach's cramping and your head splitting!" cried Junior. "I tell you down among them it looks different from riding past in an automobile."

"Exactly!" conceded Peter. "Exactly what I'm coming at. All your life

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of all there is in me to make our home the sweetest, grandest place on earth to us. Will you help me, Nancy?"

"I think maybe I'll be saved nervous prostration if I can help just a few of these things to take place."

"Yes, I've sensed that," said Peter. Mickey pointed that out to me the morning you jumped your job and headed for sunup. For years, just now your time and strength has been thrown away on old methods and implements in your work, and having the kitchen unhandy and inconvenient; and I'm the man who should have seen it, and got you right tools for your job at the same time I bought a house for myself and my wife. We must stir up this whole neighborhood, and build big entertainment house, where we can have a place suitable for country fairs and satisfying to the ways of life. It's got music house in it, and a floor fit for dancing and skating, and a stage for our own entertainments, and the folks we decide to bring here to amuse us. We can put in a picture machine and a screen, that we can pay for by charging a few cents admission the nights we run it, and rent films once or twice a week from a good city house. We could find a place like that, and get it end of fun and education out of it, without going thirty miles and spending enough money in one night to get better entertainment for a month at home, and in a cool, comfortable hall, and where we can go from it to bed in a few minutes. Once I am started, with Mickey and Junior to help me, I'm going to call a meeting and then these things over with the neighbors, and get them to join in if I can. If I can't, I'll go on and put up the building and start things I think they should be, and charge enough admittance to get back what I invest; and after that, just enough to pay running expenses and for the talent we use. I'm so sure it can be done, I'm going to do it. Will you help me?"

"Yes, I guess so, too," said Junior emphatically.

He gladly went back to the cream

wagon. Peter didn't want him to, but there was a change in Junior. He was no longer a wilful, discontented boy. He was a partner, who was greatly interested in a business and felt dissatisfied if he were not progressing at furthering it. He had little time to think, but was looking far ahead in deep thought. The Junior morning he started out, while Junior unbolted his horse, Peter filled the wagon and went back to the barn where Mickey was helping him.

(Continued in Monday Morning Bee.)

Newspaper Publisher Has Fortune of \$25,000,000

By Associated Press.

New York, Oct. 26.—William Randolph Hearst, newspaper publisher, has a personal fortune exceeding \$25,000,000, it was declared by Tillotson and Wolcott, bankers, who made the announcement in declaring a new bond issue bore the unconditional guarantee and endorsement of Mr. Hearst.

Inhabitants of London consume 250,000 gallons of water a day.

Special for Saturday

Peonies, root, 15c

Iris, root, 10c

Roses, doz., \$1.00

Lee L. Larmon
1822 Douglas St.

Farmers Near Bloomfield to Pay 6 Cents for Husking

Bloomfield, Neb., Oct. 26.—Six cents a bushel for picking corn was the

agreement reached at a meeting of farmers held at the city hall here.

The meeting was well attended. With

the price of new corn to start at about 55 cents a bushel, it was the

general sentiment that 6 cents was as much as could be paid. This includes birds.

According to reports, this would

make it cost the farmer at least 15 cents a bushel to market his crop.

A reasonably good picker can make

from \$5 to \$6 a day and board at the 6 cent price. The corn here is the best for a good many years and stands up well.



Made with Lemon and Cocoanut Oils

These two proven cleansing agents combined with the purest and most efficient products known to soapmaking are—LINN.

That's why it's mild and harmless to your hands—and that's also why it really cleans, CLEANS everything. No filler, no chemicals, no lye—just pure soap.

One ten cent package and you'll know soap satisfaction (it comes also in a large package at 25 cents).

Linn Products Co.
Chicago, Illinois



There was never a dull moment in the Neverland, because Peter Pan told everyone on the Island that they must laugh and play and never be sad. Peter Pan often delighted and thrilled Wendy and John and Michael and the Fairies by hitching his swing to a star and swing merrily for hours. When a cloud drifted into the pathway of the swing Peter gave a great "puff" and blew it away.

"This Perfect Bread"

Made Possible by Omaha's Best Home Bread Bakers

When we asked Omaha housewives to make "their" perfect loaf of bread, we did so for one reason—to find the consensus of opinion as to what, in their opinion, constituted the "perfect" loaf.

Our answer is in Peter Pan Bread. It is made from the prize-winning recipes of Omaha's Best Home Bread Bakers. It is the one bread that is given every known advantage to assure perfect quality; and it is "certified" by Good Housekeeping Magazine as being one of the very best breads in all America.

Order PETER PAN Bread from your grocer today, and enjoy the goodness of better bread as revealed through PETER PAN.

These Are Members of the Peter Pan Family

White Bread
Raisin Bread
Whole Wheat Bread
Whole Wheat Raisin

Graham Bread
Rye Bread
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Ask Your Grocer Today
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"WHEN YOU THINK OF BREAD, THINK OF ME" — PETER PAN

Peter Pan

Baked by Petersen & Pegau Baking Company

On Sale Everywhere

Makes Housework Easy Sailing

KITCHEN KLENZER

Adds to the Life of Your Finer Fabrics

AUTOMATIC SOAP FLAKES