

# SEASONED TIMBER

CHAPTER XI  
SYNOPSIS

Timothy Hulme, principal of a good but impoverished Vermont academy, lives a studious bachelor's existence with only his Aunt Lavinia for company. Timothy makes friends with a new teacher, Susan Harvey, and the younger sister, Della. Timothy meets his nephew, Canby Hunter, who goes on a skiing party in bad weather. They run across an auto accident in the mountains in which Susan is badly injured. Susan gropes her way back to health while Timothy furiously watches. Timothy gets the news that Mr. Wheaton, a trustee of the academy, has died of apoplexy, and will leave the academy a rich endowment on condition that its name be changed and that it exclude all Jewish students. A meeting is held in the town assembly room where Timothy makes known the conditions of the will.

He went on, "On that day last December Mr. Wheaton urged the exclusion of any student, no matter how fine his personality and intelligence, if he had any connection with a race for which Mr. Wheaton had a personal dislike. He had his will carefully drawn, as you see, to try to make sure that his ideas for the Academy's future should be realized."

His pause was long. The silence was crackling with tension. People gazed up at his grim face, unblinkingly attentive. He went on, "Mr. Dewey has something he wants to say to you, and so has Doctor Fotee. My part in this meeting was to make the terms of Mr. Wheaton's will clear to you all, not only the wording but the real meaning. I shall vote for a trustee who will stand with Mr. Dewey in refusing to accept this bribe. And if it is accepted, I shall resign."

He turned and walked back to his seat. At the faculty meeting Mr. Dewey had spoken first, a brief statement of his feeling about the bequest. Timothy had then said that he wanted to make it clear that no pressure was to be put on any member of the teaching staff. The faculty were quite free, he told them, not only to take any stand they thought right, but to take no stand at all if they preferred.

The older teachers had no chance to say anything at all, for at this point young Bowen took the floor, "I don't need any two months. The question is perfectly plain to me at a glance. He pushed, looked hard at Timothy and with the derisive small laugh with which he often prefaced his remarks went on, "It's all very well to say we are left free to take any stand we like."

Mr. Hulme, you and Mr. Dewey breathing out fire and brimstone. But I'll take advantage of your kind permission to have an opinion of my own. The terms of the will seem unusually intelligent and realistic to me, and I consider the objections to them nothing but moral hair-splitting."

"It is cruel to indulge in threadbare discredited liberalism at the expense of a pitiful poor school and poor town. To quibble over the terms of this astounding piece of good fortune, looks to me, Mr. Hulme, like keeping a desperately sick man from getting the medicine he needs, because you don't like the color of the druggist's eyes."

Something about the quality of his voice as he spoke, of his darling look of resentment, made Timothy surmise, "There's something personal he can't stand about me."

Bowen and Peter Dryden went on to the student meeting. "If you don't object to my being present," said Bowen, implying by his accent that Timothy would not object.

"Oh, come along! Come along! The more the merrier," said Timothy, genially.

The four men entered the Assembly room together where the waiting students burst into "Academy! Academy! One! Two! Three! Clifford Academy!"

Here are we! As Timothy appeared on the platform they changed this to "Some say HAW! Some say GEE!"

We say the best ever is old T. C. Timothy went on: "Suppose each of us here makes a little statement of how it looks to us. Mr. Bowen, for instance, has quite a different idea about what's the right thing to do from Mr. Dewey's and mine. And I think it would be a good idea for him to tell us about it."

Bowen looked astonished, gasped a little, nodded his head gamely. "Mr. Dewey, first, you're ahead of the rest of us in years," said Timothy.

Mr. Dewey rose rather unsteadily. "Here," said Timothy, pushing a chair to the front of the platform. "This is all in the family. Why don't you sit down to talk?"

So it was like a grandfather from his armchair, turning his shaggy gray head from side to side as he looked into the attentive young eyes, that Mr. Dewey said his say. He made them be proud of the tradi-



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tion back of them; he reminded them that noble traditions are always in danger from the beast in man; that it is Fascism's expressed purpose to unleash the beast in man by its incitement to race hatred. He ended, "Boys and girls of Clifford, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren of free men and free women—your town counts on you to stand for right, to hold the light of honor burning bright and free." He stood up, he pushed his chair away. "Of honor," he repeated solemnly.

As he sat down at the back of the platform the students began to applaud. When they were ready for the next speaker, "Well, Mr. Bowen, your turn now," Timothy said, matter-of-factly. He admired the firmness with which the young man walked to the front of the platform, his face rather pale, but his step steady. Bowen said, "This is no time to be mealy-mouthed, so Mr. Dewey'll have to let me say that he's at the end of his life, almost; you youngsters are at the beginning of yours. It's easy for him to suggest sacrifices for you to make that won't cost him anything. Why should you lose your chance for a decent education and a decent living because somebody tells you that somebody on the other side of the globe isn't being treated right? You yourselves aren't being treated right here in Clifford, here in the Academy. Why not start with your own needs?"

He described the poor equipment of the Academy, the non-orthodox accommodations necessary to make both ends meet. "You young people don't know at what a terribly unfair disadvantage your poor school puts you, when you go out and try to make your livings in competition with other boys and girls who have had good schooling. What it means is that you don't have a fair chance. Now this piece of good luck will give you a fair chance. Don't let yourselves be stamped into throwing it away."

He sat down. Timothy set the example of applause. Timothy got to his feet and turned to give Peter Dryden his chance to speak, but from the back of the hall somebody said, "Hold on there a minute, Professor Hulme, how about letting an Academy grad have his say about this?"

Canby Hunter stood up and walked down the aisle to the front. "I got something to tell you," he said. "I got lots to tell you!"

He said that he, like Mr. Bowen, had had the idea that it would be a grand idea to slick up the old school into something streamlined and smooth, and he had figured out how to do it without any bequest. Little by little—by jacking up the tuition and writing some good publicity and getting hold of students whose folks had money. "And Professor Hulme turned me down, cold. Do you know why? I'll tell you why—because he's had his eye on what actually happens—on real reality. Mr. Bowen would call it, he's just seen that every time that's happened to one of the old New England seminaries or academies, it's changed it into a school that took more money to go to than most of us here in Clifford have got or ever will have. If you had a bunch of students at one thousand per—and wanted to keep them—you can bet their parents would be the pipers to call the Academy tune. Now let me tell you something else I bet you never thought of. Professor Hulme could have gone—forty times over, and you'd better believe it—to better jobs with bigger salaries. But he didn't. He stayed on here, working like a one-armed paper-hanger—what for? So the old school could be kept open to us."

During the next two months, when it was apparent to Timothy that they were leading as forlorn a hope as even Canby had predicted and that he would fall in this as he failed with Susan, he tried occasionally to give a practical thought to what would be beyond that failure for him and his old dependent. Without Aunt Lavinia he could

possibly, probably—certainly in fact—find another teaching position. But it would not be without Aunt Lavinia. And it would be with an Aunt Lavinia constantly more difficult to explain to normal people.

Susan helped type and address envelopes for a while and went around to talk to members of her class now living in Clifford. But as soon as her school closed, she was sent for by some Cadoret cousins on the other side of the state whom she had promised to visit, and after that Canby's time was too much taken up with driving over the mountain and back to allow him to give more than casual help to Timothy's lost cause.

Both sides adopted every campaign device the other side invented as soon as it was put into use, and invented new ones of their own. The Bowen-Randall-Gardner workers, like those under Timothy's direction, also went up and down the streets and back roads and highways—into offices and farms and factories and homes, paying campaign calls on voters.

They too issued mimeographed bulletins and circulated them in Clifford and among the out-of-town alumni, the cost covered by a subscription taken up among the business men of town. Those bulletins were not so well written as the ones arranged by Timothy with Mr. Dewey to help him strike the accurate middle of the Clifford note. They did not need to be; the wine they offered needed no bush. Prestige for Clifford! Rich city families moving into town! Money in the banks! A market for anything the farms could produce! Better movies! Jobs, jobs! Jobs!

And as for the Academy, the picture of its future drawn by Bowen was like the Promised Land—now he wrote of fine buildings, now of the wealthy clientele, now of the future alumni who would be gold mines for gifts and bequests. Now of what these gifts would bring—a fine auditorium, a theater, great playing fields, dormitories—and then a bulletin appeared devoted entirely to explaining that all these marvelous opportunities were to be free absolutely free to our own people, even more so than now, because of the provision for scholarships for needy youth made in the will of the Academy's great benefactor.

Timothy laughed aloud that first day after Miss Peck's monument went up. He watched the passers-by stop to read the lines:

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BY BRAVE MEN WHO CALLED TO FIGHT AGAINST YORK STATE INVADERS, RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS THREATENED BY A LEGAL QUIBBLE (So far so good. The head of the reader nodded yes in devout agreement.)

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(John Quincy Adams, Speech at Plymouth December 22, 1802.) (TO BE CONTINUED.)

grandson of Ralston. E. E. Gannaway has been on the sick list the past week suffering from an attack of Flu.

Arthur H. Ward who is employed in the northern portion of the county as road patrolman visited in Plattsburgh last Tuesday, attending the meeting of the County Commissioners.

Postmaster L. B. Gorthey and wife accompanied their son, Russell to Plattsburgh where he joined the party of young men being sent to Ft. Leavenworth on Friday to enter the army.

Andy Schliefert of Manley accompanied by his grandson Dwight

Schliefert were visitors in Murdock last Wednesday.

Former Instructor Wed Miss Verne Kelly, instructor in the Murdock high school, who has been making her home in California, was united in marriage to Mr. H. W. Adams, May 1st. The couple are residing at 1654 First Street, San Diego, California.

Royal Neighbors Meet The Royal Neighbors of America held their meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Mills, north of town on Tuesday of last week. The ladies enjoyed several whistling numbers by Miss Margaret Mills,

## Avoca

Dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Norris Sunday evening were Mr and Mrs. William Maseman.

Only a few days after receiving a cablegram from their son, Corporal John Marquardt, Mr and Mrs. Harry M. Marquardt had a letter from him. Serving with the armed forces in Australia, Corporal Marquardt wrote that he is well pleased with the location and assured his parents of his good health.

The hearing on the petition for continued service on the Missouri Pacific tracks running from Auburn to Weeping Water is scheduled to get underway soon. The railroad has expressed its desire to abandon their service on the line, but local interests are hoping to have the service maintained.

Thomas Akeson was elected secretary of the Board of Education at a recent school meeting here. At the same time it was revealed that a vacancy exists in the roster of instructors. The position to be filled is that of grammar teacher.

Phillip Maseman, serving with the armed forces, was here a few days to see his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Maseman, on his way from a training center in Vermont to his new location at Fort Snelling, Minn. His wife will remain with her parents for the duration.

On their return from a Sunday visit in Plattsburgh with relatives and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McDonald returned home by way of Murray where they left their daughter, Nora Jean, for a weeks visit with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar McDonald.

The Avoca Garden Club, more active than ever now with everybody engaged in victory gardening, held its last meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schutz. Members pointed out that in spite of excessive rains gardens were doing well. Many gardeners, not only grow food for their own families, but also enough to sell to the market.

Miss Mueller spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mueller. Another Sunday guest at the Mueller home was Mr. Mueller's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller.

### Church Homecoming

With many churches throughout the district represented the annual homecoming event was held Sunday at the Sterling Presbyterian church. The refreshments served was in charge of the North Branch church.

Stewart Maseman, with the armed forces in Texas, sent his father, Henry Maseman, greetings for fathers day. Greetings also came from John Maseman, another son serving his country in Alaska.

Mr. and Mrs. Jordan M. Kokjer and small son have returned to their home in Kearney after a short visit here. Mr. Kokjer, who teaches in the Kearney schools, is doing carpentry work this summer.

Fred Marquardt was in Falls City on business Monday.

and Mrs. H. A. Tool gave a description of her trip to Lexington, where she attended the State Extension Club, along with Miss Jessie Baldwin and Mrs. Everett Spangler, who represented Cass county.

### Made a Beautiful Window

Rev. and Mrs. Krey, of Trinity church, north of Murdock, have prepared a fine window display in the George Kruse store. This is an honor roll of the boys in service from this community. It is a striking and interesting display, with the names of each boy in service attached to a ribbon which is fastened to a point on the world map at which they are stationed at this time. The Kreys are to be complimented on their unique display.

### Taken to the Hospital

I. G. Hornbeck who has been in poor health for some time, was taken to the Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln for observation and treatment. His many friends hope for a speedy recovery and his return.

### Will Visit in Northwest

Guests for Fathers Day at the A. J. Neitzel and Louis Neitzel homes were Fred Lowe and family living on a large ranch farm near Hyannis. On their return grandfather Neitzel

## Weeping Water

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Compton received a letter from their son, John, saying that he had arrived safely in England.

Denny Scott, son of Mrs. Guy Hopkins, has been transferred to Ottumwa, Iowa, in the Airplane Mechanic division.

S. Ray Smith left Saturday morning, to spend the week end with his son, Milford, at Winfield, Kans. Milford expects to leave that camp, June 26.

Miss Imogene VanEvery and her mother, Mrs. Wm. VanEvery, went to Omaha, Monday, when Imogene enrolled in the Omaha Commercial Extension Business College, for a seven-months course, with possibly an advanced course later. Imogene was the recipient of a scholarship at graduation time at the high school this spring, and she is using it for a business course.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Compton, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Steinkamp, Dale and Wanda, of Weeping Water, and Ruth Ann and Shirley Steinkamp, of Lincoln, attended the Hopkins annual family picnic in Antelope Park, Lincoln, Sunday.

Paul Gerard and Robert Kunz were business visitors in Lincoln, Wednesday.

Bide-A-Wee held their regular meeting Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Herbert Ratnour, with two invited guests, Mrs. Frank Cook and Mrs. Floyd Hite.

Mt. Hope school district held their annual meeting, Monday evening.

### War Production Down

Washington, June 19. (UP)—Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson said today that war production has fallen behind schedule and warning the nation that it must buckle down to the job of producing war materials or the opportunity to exploit recent military successes will be lost.

"The War Department is concerned over the army production situation," he said. Production in May of material for the ground forces supply program which was scheduled to rise 2 per cent from \$1,553,000,000 in April to \$1,582,000,000 in May, actually declined 3 1/2 per cent, to \$1,494,000,000.

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### Sailor on Leave

Mike I. Lafferty, yeoman petty officer 3-C, is here from Pensacola, Fla. to spend a ten day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Lafferty. Yeoman Lafferty took preliminary training at Great Lakes naval training school and later was stationed at Gulfport, Miss. He expects transfer to active duty soon.

The pastor, Rev. T. Porter Bennett, took the following boys to Camp Sheldon Columbus, to camp to spend a week. Richard M. Duxbury, James Willard Edwards, John H. Johnson and Charles H. Newton.

Rev. and Mrs. Bennett will return this evening and then go and get the boys next Saturday.

will accompany them for a month's visit.

New Minister Arrives The Rev. John H. Oehlerking and Mrs. Oehlerking, recently of Billings, Montana, have arrived and are becoming settled in the parsonage here. Rev. Oehlerking is a capable man and greatly devoted to the work which he has been called to do. The community extends a cordial welcome to the newcomers.

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**BUY ALL THE VITAMINS YOU WANT**  
There's Not Rationed!

<b>LETTUCE CALIFORNIA ICEBERG</b> 5 DOZEN SIZE	Head <b>14¢</b>
<b>CABBAGE CALIFORNIA FIRM, SOLID</b>	Lb. <b>8¢</b>
<b>CARROTS CALIFORNIA LARGE BUNCH</b>	<b>7¢</b>

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<b>STEAKS T-BONE or SIRLOIN, TENDER, JUICY, NUTRITIOUS. TRY ONE TODAY.</b>	
<b>PORK CHOPS TENDER NUTRITIOUS</b> Loin End, Rib End, or Center Cuts.	
<b>HAMBURGER FOR LOAVES or PATTIES.</b> Save Points and Serve the Best.	
<b>COLD CUTS ALL VARIETIES for Cool Summer Meals. Point Savers, Too.</b>	

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<b>Chicken Gumbo</b> or Chicken Noodle Soup 2 1/2-oz glass	<b>14¢</b>
<b>COFFEE</b> Coflet's, Richer Improved Blend, Hinky-Dinky Economy Blend,	1-lb. bag <b>25¢</b> 1-lb. <b>23¢</b>
<b>SUGAR GRANULATED BEET</b>	5-lb. bag <b>33¢</b> 1-lb. <b>8¢</b>
<b>FLOUR CORONET ECONOMICAL</b>	24-lb. sack <b>83¢</b>
<b>CERTO Fruit Pectin, Stretch Your Jelly Juices</b>	8-oz bottle <b>20¢</b>
<b>BEANS Van Camp's Precooked 3 Blue Points</b>	12-oz Pkg. <b>13¢</b>
<b>SEASON'S TOILET SOAP</b> 1/2 SALE	4 Reg. bars <b>18¢</b>
<b>MIXING BOWL SET, 4 Bowls Assorted Sizes</b>	<b>49¢</b>

**HINKY DINKY**

Plattsburgh Prices in this ad effective June 21 through June 23 subject only to market changes in fresh fruits and vegetables. We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers.

## MURDOCK

Miss Janet McCrorey of Mound City, Mo., who has been spending the past week with her aun., Mrs. Frank Buell, has returned to her home.

Mrs. Floyd Miller and two daughters Roma and Marilyn, who have been guests of Mrs. Miller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. A. Boyd, returned to their home at Pierce Nebraska on last Monday. Another guest at the Boyd home the past week was Master Larry Boyd, a