

Mary Roberts Rinehart

SIDNEY LEARNS SOME YERY PAINFUL TRUTHS AND FEAR ENTERS DOCTOR MAX'S SOUL THE SE HE HE

A mysterious stranger, Kr. LeMoyne, takes at room at the Page homo presided over by Sidney ther mother Anna, and have kunt Plans giet, a fashionable dressmaker. Throughothe influence of DraiMax Wilson, a brilliant, Loung surgeon smittens with they churm sidney ecomes a hospital nurse. K. loves her from a distance is sondons. Fruite Joe Drummond, an old schoolmate, Alithernbashin, Sidney inakes the acquaintance of Carlotta Harrison, who has been overintimate with Doctor Max and who is jealous of the innocent new-comer. Sidney's thinh, Christine Lorettz marries Palmer Howe, a young society rathe and they take rhoms with the place, " Howe turns traitor to his bride. His arm is Broken in a jog riding licefilefiff and Johnny Rosenfeld, his chauffeur, is fafally huer. 8 Sidney's fnother dies. Doctor Wilson discovers that LeMoyne is a Tamous Doctor Adwardes, living incognito, and keeps the secreta CariottandHarrison poisons Johnny, a patient in the hospital, and puts the blame on Side ney. Christine, secretly admiring K., asks him to warn Sidney, against Poctor Wilson, who, she thinks would prove untrue to the girl if he married her. When this installment opens, K, is trying to explain to Celestine why he can't interfere in Max and Sidney's uffairs.

CHAPTER XVII-Continued. ---14---

After all, Christine had known this, or surmised it, for weeks. But it hurt like a fresh stab in an old wound. It was K, who spoke again after a pause; The deadly hard thing, of course, is to sit by and see things happening that one—that one would naturally try to prevent."

"I don't believe that you have always been of those who only stand and walt" said Christing, "Sometime, K., when you know me better and like men better, I want you to tell me about it, vill you?"

There's very little to tell. I held was unfit to hold that trust any longers I gostal That's att. hand the contempt . His tone of finality closed the discus-

But Christine's eyes were on him often that evening, puzzled, rather

They talked of books, of music-"bristine played well in a dashirig way." K. had brought her soft, tender littlet things, and had stood over her uhril's her noisy touch became gentle, Sho played for him a little, while he suf-back in the bi-chair with his hand screening his eyes.

When, at last, he rose and picked up his cap, it was nine o'clock,

"I've taken your whole evening," he said remorsefully. "Why don't you tell me I am a nuisance and send me

Christine was still at the plane, her hands on the keys. She spoke with-

out looking at him? You're never'n misahëe, K., and—" Something in her tone caught his nr-

Tention. "I forgot to tell you," she went on. "Father has given Palmer five thousand dollars. He's going to buy a

That's fine." Possibly. I don't believe much in Palmer's business ventures.

Her flat tone stiff held libur Underneath it he divined strain and repres-

"F ante to go and leave you alone." he saident last from the door. . "Mave ! you gay idea, when Halmer will be

Not the slightest, K., will you come bere a moment? Sind behind me; I chem't want to see you, and I want to tell you something." Me Mid as she bude him, father puz-

"More I am." who have

"I think I am & fool for saying this, Perhaps, I am spoiling the only chance I have to get any happiness out of life. But I was terribly unhappy, K., and then you came into my life, and 1now I listen for your step in the hall. L'can't be a hypocrite any longer, K."

When he stood behind her, silent and mot moving, she turned slowly about and faced him. He towered there in The little:room, grave eyes on hers.

"It's a long time since I have had a woman friend, Christine," he said sotreely real Xour friendship has meant a mot care to look ahead if it were not word you. "I'l value our friendship so monety ignational miles in

That you den't want to spoil it." she anished for hims."I know you don't care for me, Kampot the way I --But I wanted you to know. It doesn't

cause Pani always around, and all that ssort of thing, you think things that the filleon's operating room garbe long. eren't freatly: sod: Umeonly a reaction. Christinei'hda novî gimuqa eidi ganiş ma.

If she had cried, things might have placed saintliness of her face. been different for everyone; for per-

With the Charles and Space and the haps K, would have taken her in his arms. He was heart-hungry enough, "I think you can understand," said those days, for anything, 'And per-K. rather wearily, "that if I cared less, haps, too, being intuitive, Christine bristine, it would be easier to inter- felt this, But she had no mind to force him into a situation against his

> "It is because you are good," she said, and held out her hand, "Goodnight."

Le' Moyne took it and bent over and kissed it lightly!" There was in the kiss all that he could not say of respects of affection and understanding. "Good-night, Christine," he said, and went into the hall and upstairs.

The lamp, was not lighted in his room, but, the street silight, glowed through the windows. Once again the waving fronds of the allanthus tree llung ghostly shadows on the walls, a trust. When I discovered that I There was a failit sweet odor of blossoms, so soon to become lank and heavy. see and Themps Melicine

CHAPTER XVIII.

Sidney went late the operating room late in the spring as the result of a conversation between the yourger Wilson' and the Head.

"When are you going to put my protegee' into the operating room?" a corridor one bright spring afternoon, "That usually comes in the second ends of cases." rear, Doctor, Wilson."

He smiled down at her. "That Isn't a rule, licht ?

"Not exactly. Miss Page is very young, and of course there are other



I Can't Be a Hypocrite Any Longer mor rule to K.", the

girls who have not yet had the experience. But if you make the request-

"I am going to have some good cases soon. I'll not make a request, of course; but, if you see fit, it would be good training for Miss Page."

Miss Gregg went on knowing perwhing. And it—isn't going to stop your tor Wilson would expect Sidney Page in the operating room. The other document is and it—isn't going to stop your in the operating room. The other document is an incoming here it is an incoming here it is an incoming here is an incoming here. In the incoming here is an incoming here. In the incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here. In the incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here is an incoming here.

that afternoon. For her blue uni-form, kerchief, and cap she exchanged straight white gown with short steeves and mob can gray white from many

The relationship between Sidney and

ind women't when things indstructively in the conversal to the conversal t existed for the day that Ahrenovenths v lal full of saft some repetited this, . 'Fan's in a few yours, whatever the quality is

he made. He would not go back, and he dared not golfforward 110

If Sidney was puzzled, she kept it bravely: to horself, in heralitale room at maight, with the door garefully locked, she tried to think things out There were a few treasures that she looked over regularly: a dried flower from the Christmas roses; a label that he had pasted playfully on the back of Ner hand one day after the rush of surgical dressings was over and which said : "ReTake mee had foreven"!

over which Sidney spent march time; Carlottuo had hut abuther? She was It was a nage ton out of an order, stendy nonneghour a moment, cool and book, and it read: have light diet: Rosenfeld massage. could have sightly parrowed eyes.

to request to have, Sidney, Ja, the opening ing her dis Wir lifed over emotions. ating room. He wanted her with him, and he wanted her to see him at work? the 'nge-old instinct of the male to have his woman see him at his bestoo N A

The deepening and broadening of Sidney's character had been very noticeable in the last few months. She had gained in decision without becom-ing hard; had learned to see things as they are, not through the rose mist of early girthood; and, far from being put her hands over her eyes. daunted, thad: developed a philosophy that had for its basis God in his heaven risen above their whisper. and all, well with the world, . . .

But her new theory of acceptance, did not comprehend everything. She was in a state of wild revolt, for instance, as to Johnny Rosenfeld, and more remotely but not less deeply concerned over Grace Irving.

But her revolt was to be for herself On the day after her appointment to the operating room, she had her half-holiday, and when, after a restless night, she went to her new station, it was to learn that Wilson had been called out of the city in consultation and would not operate that, day, asked Wilson, meeting Miss Gregg in O'Hara would take advantage of the free afternoon to run in some olds and

The operating room made gatize that morning, and small packets; of tampons: absorbent cotton covered with sterilized gauze, and fastened together-twelve, by careful count, in each

Miss Grange, who had been kind to Sidney in her probation months, taucht her the method.

"Used instead of sponges," she explained. "If you noticed yesterday, they were counted before and after each operation. One of these missing is worse than a bank clerk out a doltar at the end of the day. There's no closing up until it's found!" Sidney eyed the small packet before

her anxiously.

"What a hideous responsibility!" she said. From that time on she handled the

small gauze sponges almost reverently. The operating room-all glass, white enamel, and shining nickel plate-lirst frightened, then thrilled her. It was as if, having loved a great actor, she now trod the enchanted boards on which he achieved his triumphs. She was glad that it was her afternoon off, and that she would not see some lesser star+O'Hara, to wit-usurping his place. But Max had not sent her any word. That hurt.

The operating room was a hive of industry, and tongues kept pace with fingers. What news of the world came in through the great doors was translated at once into hospital terms. What the city forgot the hospital remembered. It took up life where the town left it at its gates, and carried It on or saw it ended as the case might. I overheard. I didn't try to hear. It be. So these young women knew the ending of many stories, the beginning of some; but of none did they know

By many small kindnesses Sidney had made herself popular: And there was more to it than that. She never But Carlotta was different. Hang the shirked. The other girls had the re- girl, anyhow ! She had known from spect for her of one honest worker the start that the affair was witemfor another, The epispde that had caused her suspension seemed entirely forgotten. They showed her carefully what she was to do; and, because she must know the "why" of everything. they explained as best they could.

It was while she was standing by the great sterliger that the heard, through an open door, part of a conversation that sent her through the day with per world in revolt gauge anadold to

The talkers were putting the an-esthetizing room in readiness for the afternoon. Sidney, waiting for the time to open the sterilizer, was busy for the first time in her hutried morning. He tried to make her smile up at sterilizations. But the ugly costume with her own thoughts. Because she is the last then she could not seemed to emphasize her beauty, as the was very human, there was a table of a unn often brings out the little exultation in her mind. What be was very human, there was man tant. They regulate either ment and little exultation in her mind. What boast of it. The tiuth is they are would these girls say when they fools, and people are too polite to tes learned of how things stood between them about it.

'Sometimes I have wondered-' "So have others. She oughtn't to be here, or comes. But among so many

Max Han tending that worth the tend of the worth that the tender of the worth that worth the tender of the worth that worth the tender of the worth that worth the worth that worth the worth the worth that worth the w

dential, Mil 3d perfores to but sees ware of roads that have cost hundreds it

evening. And ou her vacation last The voices dropped to a whisper. Sidney, standthig cold and white by the sterilizer, put out a hand to steady There was another piece of paper herself. So that was it! No wonder Underneuth was written very small To a sort of physical nausen was suc-You are the most bekunder belieffer in "ceeding anger, a blind fary of injured the world over interest and a contract of the land been in love with Car-Two reasons, had, promisted: Wilson total and had fired of her. He was She vellichmered the briteriess of her niowthis exiter awants probable cause. Maxibalt stond by her then. Well he might, if he suspected the truth.

For Just a moment she had an illuminating flash of Wilson as he really was, selfish and self-indulgent, just a trifle too carefully dressed, daring as to eye and speech, with a carefully-calculated daring, frankly pleasure-loving. She

The voices in the next room had

"Gentus has privileges, of course," said the older voice. "He is a very great surgeon. Tomorrow he is to do the Edwardes operation again. I am. glad I am to see him do it,".

Sidney still held her hands over her yes. He was a great surgeon: in his hands he held the keys of life and death, And p rhaps he had never way culvert is relatively more excared for Carlotta: she 'might have pensive than similar work in a town lence, to thrown herself at him. He was a man, because of the waste of time of the at the mercy of any scheming woman, workmen in going to and from the She tried to summon his image to her aid. But a curious thing happened. She could not visualize him. Instead, there came, clear and distinct, a pic-

ture of K. Le Moyne in the hall of the little house, reaching one of his long arms to the chandelier over his head and looking up at her as she stood on the stairs.

CHAPTER XIX.

"But, Sidney, I'm asking you to mar-"I-I know that. I am asking you omething else, Max."

"I have never been in love with her;" His voice was sulky. He had drawn

the car close to a bank, and they were front of the opening, and, with the sitting in the shade, on the grass - It was the Sunday afternoon after ney's experience in the operating room. You took her out, Max. didn't you?"

"A few times, yes. She seemed to have no friends. I was sorry for her." "That was all?"

"Absolutely: Good heavens, you've put me through a catechism in the last ten minutes!? "If my father were living, or even

mother, I-one of them would have done this for me, Max. I'm sorry I had to, I've been very wretched for several days."

It was the first encouragement she had given him. There was no coquetry about her aloofness. It was only that her faith in him had had a shock and was slow of reviving,

"You are very, very loyely, Sidney. wonder if you have any idea what you mean to me?"

"You meant a great deal to me, too," she said frankly, "until a few days ago. thought you were the greatest man had ever known, and the best. And then-I think I'd better tell you what just happened that way."

He listened doggedly to her account of the hospital gossip, doggedly and both the first and last, the beginning with a sinking sense of fear, not of the talk, but of Carlotta herself. Usuelly, one might count on the woman's allence, her instinct for self-protection, porany one; he had never pretended: anything else.

There was silence for a moment of ter Sidney Onished. Then:

"Do you think that Ki sught to swallow his personal feelings and tell Sidney exactly the truth about Wilson? Would she think him caddish and hate him if he tried to do so? dan imponta na s

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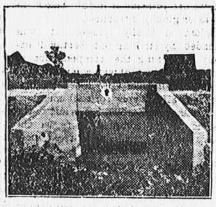
Some sment are exerminally imper-

Choose an agreeable_diet_

She hesitated at a toss for a word BUILDING OF ROAD CULVERTS

anathers thomas and is (comiltion harby There Were wo voices, a Young one sematerial they will have to be rebuilt

exasporated the man age of the transporation of the control of the moved table of the state of the roads but for the course the was crazy about her last fall, her be reduced to the lowest possible "Miss Page?" (The younger voice, figure consistent with efficiency. Man? with a third half of course this is confi. to build culverts of boards to take the dental "Carlotta". Of course this is confi.



Culvert Built of Concrete.

worse, to waste money in work of this sort with the use of bad material. In building a culvert the road builder must observe three fundamental requirements:

1. The first requirement is that the cuivert must be so placed that it will drain across the road, and under the road, of course, all the water that is delivered to it by the side ditch along the road. If this be not done, the earth along the road and about the end of the culvert will be wet and soggy the most of the year and the culvert opening will require almost constant repairs. Repairing a highpoint at which the work must be done, In placing the culvert care must also be taken that it will not be choked by brush and leaves, and this duty must be discharged by the road supervisor, and will be, if he is worth his-

2. The second and very important Look, requirement in the building of a culvert is that its ends must be protected by some kind of a wall or facing carried down to a firm foundation. If this be done, it will be found that the and end of the culvert will not be under- stomach, liver and bowels so nicely. cut by the water and will not be further necessary work of keeping the feeding ditches clear, the culvert will be able to take care of all the water alongside the road.

3. The third requirement is that the culvert must be made so strong that it will not become broken and so tight: that it will not leak. These ends can be reached by building the culvert of masonry, concrete or of good piping. The material to be used must, be determined by the relative cost of the several materials at the locality where the culvert is to be built and by the distance from the top of the culvert to the surface of the road.

REDUCE EXPENSE OF HAULING

Improved Roads Put Farmer in Position Where He Can Go to Market Every Day in Year.

Permanent road building costs money, and it is well to look at the cold-cash side of the proposition. True, the beneficial effects upon the social and educational standards of the community are not always susceptible of exact calculation, but they are certain to come; and since a permanent road costs money, we must know there is to be a profit from somewhere to offset the cost. Something for nothing has never yet been found.

Profits from a permanent road come to the farmer in the reduction of hauling costs. It puts him in a position where he can get to murket every day in the year, and where he can haul two loads at one trip instead of baying to make two trips to haul one load.

Paved Country Roads. Many country roads are paved—with good intentions, but for the most part with lumps of sod, stone, ruts and subblate.

off Good Only in Pedigree, with Too many sires are good tonly da podigree, A good grade is better than a poor, purebredely done to adapted about

Hen Outdoors in Winter.
The hen can spend little of the winter season in the open air and a properly constructed house is necessary.

Keep the digestion normal to notife!

See that the liver is active, and armed

The bowels always regular

Stomach Bitters

"Signify? of Secretary to Sate the appear of roads that more continuous and in I were writing a part "Signify? at the road the pring of the less foolish, or cival roles, do you know what I would be none the less foolish, or cival roles, do you know what I would be none the less foolish, or cival roles, do you know what I would be not the less foolish, or cival roles, do you know what I would be not the less foolish, or cival roles, do you want to work your roles.

"What?" Lafe I absonge nongovar? "I would have them teresto their courtship in Petrograd, Constantinople

or Bucharest," "But what's the idea?"

"Oh. just..to get away from Yeulco. and Monte Carlo, where two thirds of the many lead complet on the single feet to have up quell other. A

CUTICURA IS SO SOOTHING

To Itching, Burning Skins-It Not Only Soothes, but Heals-Trial Free.

Treatment; Bathe the affected surface with Cuticura Soap and hot water, dry gently and apply Cutleura Ointment. Repeat morning and night. This method affords immediate relief. and points to speedy healment. They

are ideal for every-day toilet uses. Free sample each by mail will Blok. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L. Boston. Sold everywhere.-Adv: . . .

Strong Material,

The professor was spenking to the class regarding from and steel for building construction.

"What is the strongest material which can be put into a house?" he "Limburger cheese," promptly re-

plied the boy, speaking from experi-

Mother! If tongue is coated, give "California

Syrup of Figs." Children love this "fruit laxative," nothing else cleanses the tender

A child simply will not stop playing broken, frost will not injure it, the to empty the bowels, and the result is surrounding or superincumbent earth they become tightly clogged with will not slide down into the ditch in , waste, liver gets sluggish, stomheh sours, then your little one becomes cross, half-sick, feverish, don't eat, sleep or act naturally, breath is bad. system full of cold, has sore throat, stomach-ache or diarrhea. Listen, Mother! See if tongue is conted, then give a tenspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours att. the constipated washer sour bile and undigested food passes out of the system, and you have a well child again,

> harmless; children Tote 19, and it nevel er falls to act on the stomach, fiver and bowels. Ask at the store for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has full directions for babies, children. of all ages and for grown-ups plainly printed on the bottle. Adv.

Millions of mothers give "California ...

Syrup of Figst because it is perfectly in

3 1 99 3 11 12 12 1 199 Translated "Maybelle used a lot of make-up on b

her face." "Now I shall call it make out,"

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills are not but a good old fashioned dose of m Ucine for regulating the stomach, the liver and the bowels. Get a box and try them. Adv

Panama Canal zone has 228 licensed person. This meeting is calesidemotion

ode of Lazer TAHW LAX-FOSTIS an Improved Cascara

A DISECTIVE TAXASTVEPT PRASENT to fine in LAX-FOS the Cascara is improved by addition of cestiful with head chemicals which increase the efficiency of the Cascara, making it better than ordinary Cascara. LAX-FOS aids digestion; pleasant to take; flow out grips or digret stomach. Adapted to children and adults. Just my a bottle for constipation or judicestion. Against the constipation or judicestion.

number and received HOYOU A CEPTAL STREET AND THE COURT OF THE COURT O