

SERIAL STORY
'MRS. DOC' BY TOM HORNER

try to explain. And if he doesn't—

"If he doesn't—then your chance to be a professor—to amount to something—is gone . . . forever."

It would always be like this, Emily knew. Even if Dr. Peterson did accept Alan's explanation, even if Alan went on with his plans up to the last minute, even if they were ready to step on to the train to leave Summer forever, there would always be something like this to hold Alan here. He could not break away. He would not. He never would. The ties were too strong.

And Emily? What did it mean for her? She pondered the question. Endless years, just as this last one had been?

A thought of Eric flashed through her mind. Eric offered opportunity to escape all this. But as quickly she put him from her thoughts. This was her problem—and Alan's. They must settle it alone, without interference of a third party.

Could she let her dreams of returning to St. Louis go? Could she resign herself to days and nights of loneliness? Could she ever be content as a country doctor's wife?

That she loved Alan, she knew. But whether she loved him enough to remain here, buried in Summer, she was not certain. Alan loved her—as much as he could ever love anyone. No doubt of that. But his profession came first. She was outside, alone. An ever-widening gulf of misunderstanding was separating them. They were growing farther and farther apart. Where would it end? She buried her face in her hands, tried to think clearly.

ALAN realized, too, that a final decision must be made to-night. If he failed to comply with Peterson's virtual order to appear tomorrow, there likely would never be another chance. A hundred men, older, just as skillful as he—all experienced teachers—were available in Europe. They would gladly jump at the opportunity and Peterson would be practically forced to accept them.

And what of Mrs. Howland? and Grandma Frank? They had a voice in this, too—a pleading, persistent voice that would not be still.

If Emily would only understand. If only something could change her so that she could see his work as he saw it. If she could even become a part of it, helping rather than hindering him.

Suddenly Alan knew what he would do. He squared his shoulders, faced his wife.

"What are you going to do?" Emily asked him calmly, evenly. Alan had known she would be like this in a crisis. No tears, no hysterical pleading.

"I'm staying here, Emily. I'm wiring Peterson that the whole thing is off. I don't want to be a professor. I want to be a doctor and that's what I'm going to be."

He went to the telephone. Emily winced as he dictated the message. This was the end. Fighting to keep back her tears, she waited until he had replaced the receiver.

"That is your decision, Alan," she said. "Now listen to mine. I'm going to St. Louis. If you won't come, I'll go alone."

"Emily!" His face was white.

"This can't go on," Emily went on swiftly. "You can have Summer—but you can have it without me!"

"What do you mean?" Alan's lips tried to set in a thin, hard line, but they quivered, involuntarily.

"I mean that we're through, Alan. I'm leaving. I'll arrange for the divorce."

"Emily, what are you saying?" he shouted.

"You can have your patients—they mean more to you than I do."

"But they don't. You can't do this. Think what it means!" Alan was finding control again. "Our life—our marriage. Think—think what you're doing."

"I have thought—I've done nothing but think—for months. I know what I'm doing. I don't belong here. I—"

The jingle of the telephone interrupted her. She paused as Alan answered.

"It's Mrs. Howland," he said as he turned to her again. "I'll be at the hospital."

Even now—Emily thought after he had gone—when his own marriage hangs in the balance, they call and he goes!

THE telephone was still warm from his hand when Emily lifted it, called a number. After a long wait a man's voice answered.

"I want to speak to Eric Kane," Emily said.

"He's out on the dam. Can I have him call you?" the man shouted at her.

"It's important that I speak to him immediately. Please call him," Emily replied. There was another prolonged wait. At last Eric answered.

"Oh, it's you, Emily. Sorry to keep you waiting. Having a little trouble—this rain—"

"Eric, I'm leaving Alan." She spoke evenly. "I'm going home. I need you, here, now. Will you come down tonight?"

(To Be Continued)



Eleemosynary Bill Offered in Senate
By United Press
AUSTIN, Mar. 21.—An eleemosynary appropriation bill for the two years beginning Sept. 1, 1939, was offered today in the Texas Senate by Senator Morris Roberts of Pettus, chairman of the finance committee.

The bill seeks to appropriate \$14,682,555.

Russia Is Asked About Attitude
By United Press
MOSCOW, Russia, March 21.—An official announcement said today that England had asked the Soviet attitude towards the European situation.

Russia in reply proposed a conference of the most interested powers, but Britain considered the proposal premature.



MYRA NORTH, Special Nurse -- By Thompson and Coll



Has "New Deal" Have "New Deal" For '39 Season

DALLAS, Tex.—The Dallas baseball team will present a "new deal" to Texas League fans this season when they take the field in the opening day ceremonies. With the exception of a few hold-over players the organization will be new from business office to the manager and field captain.

Dallas fans have exhibited keen interest in the new set-up. At the first intrasquad game here where the team is doing its spring training, 8,500 fans went to the local park on a Sunday afternoon to look the 30-odd players over.

The "new deal" will include:

1. The club will have a new home to replace "Steele's" when a fan contest is finished March 31.
2. The club is now controlled by a new president, George Schepps.
3. The park proper will take on the semblance of a new plant by the time the season opens.
4. Aside from an outfielder, two infielders and two or three pitchers, the playing roster will present new names.
5. Biggest change made by the Dallas club is the change in the business office. Schepps, prominent Dallas sportsman, stepped into the baseball picture with both feet this winter by purchasing on the open mart, several players whose form in spring training indicates they will rank among the league leaders. Foremost of Schepps' deals include:
1. Selection of Hap Morse as manager. Morse formerly was popular at second base on the Dallas team and piloted the club to one pennant.
2. Purchase of Bill Cronin and "Red" Hayward, catchers.
3. Purchase of Hal B. Lee, Ernie Sulik and Cecil Smily, outfielders.
4. Acquisition of Bus Schamp, Earl Overman and half a dozen promising rookie pitchers.

"Meme" next, whispers Berlin. And Ernst Neumann, above, Nazi leader of 130,000 Germans in that district of Lithuania, urges a Reich protectorate for his followers.

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PHONE 7 — RANGER

Commission Race At Eastland Still In Mystery Status

Whether Eastland's city commissioners whose terms are expiring will seek re-election in the Saturday, April 4, election remained untold Tuesday.

L. J. Lambert and H. O. Satterwhite indicated they would have a definite statement Wednesday. Mayor C. W. Hoffmann had announced previously he would not seek re-election, but later he was petitioned and solicited by many to run.

Monday, March 27, at 5 p. m. is the deadline to file with City Secretary W. W. Kelly.

Election judges will be Oscar Wilson, R. B. Braly and E. P. Kilborn.

Look Forward to April 11.

Tax

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