

## WHAT IS TO BECOME OF FRIEND 'JACK' NOW THAT MISS LEARNED IS GONE?

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**WILLISTON, March 24.**—Perhaps, after all these years, Henry Ford may have his way. All his money could never alienate Miss Winnie Bell Learned's affections for Old Jack while she lived. Now that she has returned to her Maker and will ride in heavenly chariots only, she may have no objections to the 1914 model T Ford returning to its maker, too.

For more than a quarter of a century, until her death Saturday, the elderly lady driving her out-moded vehicle was a familiar sight in this town and on the streets of Burlington. Frequently the sight was enhanced by a back seat bulging with flowers. For Miss Learned loved to "grow things" and raised flowers not only to sell but also to give to her many friends. It is typical of her spirit that despite her love of flowers, her last request to her friends was to omit flowers at her funeral tomorrow and instead give the money to the Vermont Children's Aid society because boys and girls need good soil to grow in, too. During her lifetime she used a considerable portion of the money she made from selling flowers to help finance the education of several young people.

### Here Since 1911

Miss Learned came to Williston in 1911 from Massachusetts where she had taught school for many years. She made her home on Cherry Hill farm with her friends the Burnetts, and many persons later knew her as "Miss Burnett, the flower lady who drives the old model T Ford."

In 1915 she bought "Old Jack" from a Burlington auto firm, after the car had been in use one year. Three lessons sufficed to teach her the intricacies of driving the model T and thereafter she was

able to crank and start it when strong men failed.

### Loyal to Car

According to local legend a representative of Henry Ford tried, a few years ago, to swap the model T for a brand new model but Miss Learned wasn't interested. "Neither Mr. Ford nor anyone else can alienate my affections for Jack," she is quoted as replying. "He's been a good friend to me for many years and I won't go back on him in his old age. We old-timers have got to stick together and look after each other."

Although Miss Learned seldom drove her car farther than from here to Burlington and back, she made the trip almost daily in the summer months and covered approximately 3,000 miles every summer. During the winter months Jack hibernated in his barn stall. Despite its long usage the car seldom gave its owner any trouble. During the years a Peerless radiator replaced the original and slightly larger wheels were substituted for the factory size. Otherwise the auto is "as good as new." What is to become of "Jack" is not now known, but it is certain that Miss Learned's many friends will miss the sight of the two of them chugging serenely along the highway of life, sublimely oblivious to the vicissitudes of time and the modes of the day.

