

of emergency. Once out there, we shall all begin to make money at once, and the rest will be easy. I have been thinking about the vacuum cleaner. Robin can work it splendidly. He could make many a dollar that way, while he was looking out for a job."

"I thought I was going to homestead," protested Robin. "You can go out charing yourself, if you think it's so jolly nice."

"I shouldn't mind a bit," said Alberta. "It would be rather fun. And you'll certainly have to get down to work, just as I intend to. You'll only be on the homestead for six months of the year. Everybody works out there, and nobody thinks a bit the worse of you, whatever you do."

"I hope you will always behave as a lady," put in Aunt Mary uneasily.

Betty looked aghast.

"Oh *no*, Aunt. Not in Canada ! Me and Sally are going to live with Robin on the homestead, and keep chickens."

"It will do the girls no harm to run wild a bit," said the experienced Alberta, in return for much support in argument from her younger sisters.

"But Betty will have to begin to qualify as a teacher at once," reminded Aunt Mary.

Alberta whiffled the objection away.

"All these details can be better settled out there," she said. "Sally, what *have* you done with the steamship labels again ? Aunty, I really do not see how we can have the hat-box 'Wanted on the Voyage.' The state-room will be quite full."

The weeks since they had booked their passage seemed to fly past like minutes. There were now but