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BRAVE GIRL WON A FORTUNE

Nerve of Telegraph Operator Prevents a Calamity.

It was a genuine looking place, that station on the Northern Pacific rail road. I can't now understand how I, a girl of twenty, could have filled the position of night operator there. But I did, and my being there resulted in an important change in my life.

The place being so exposed, I kept a revolver under a lounge in my office, on which I often rested when not busy. I confess that I never thought I should use it even if an armed man were coming to murder me. I always handled it as I would a viper that would sting me if I ever thought what I would do if some villain should come along to interfere with me, but as I could not sleep up my courage even in time to show him I did not know how I could be likely to do it in reality. One night, double-headers were running. The first stopped into the station and without a word one of them came to me and ordered me away from the telegraph instrument while the other took up a red lantern from the floor and went out. It was plain that the man who had approached me intended that I should not sound a warning while the other was to stop the train for half an hour. Knowing as I did that the train carried an express safe, I understood that these men were but two of a gang intending to stop the train and rob the safe.

For a few minutes I was frightened nearly to death. It was only when the man with the lantern went out and the other quietly took a seat where he could watch me that it occurred to me they would not likely hurt a woman unless she interfered with their plans. From that moment I began to regain my composure. Then I began to think of some trick by which I might send a message to the station. It was impossible—the man would not let me get near enough to the instrument to begin to talk to him.

"I know," I said, "that it wouldn't do for you to have me touch that key, and my life would pay for doing so, consequently you needn't trouble yourself to watch me."

"I'll keep an eye on you all the time," he replied.
"To show you that I have no intention of touching the key, I'll go and sit on that lounge if you will permit me." "Go ahead," he seemed rather taken with an idea that I could remove me farther from the instrument. I got up and going to the lounge, sat down on it. My revolver was directly beneath me. If I were a man and quick to move and shoot the robber would be as much as dead. But a woman! Great heavens! What was I thinking of!

I heard the key clicking a message to me from the dispatcher asking if the track was clear. The man listened looked at the key and, doubtless fancying that it would be better to cut off communication, went to it and placed a paper weight on it. While doing so his back was toward me.

"I can never think of the impulse that seized me and my action at that moment without wonder. It seemed that a cyclone of mingled rage and resolution swept over my brain and hurled me into that of which I was incapable. In a second I had bent down, seized the revolver, cocked it, pointed it at the man standing at the table and cried fiercely, "Hands up!"

He turned like a flash, started to grasp one of his revolvers, saw by my eye that I was about to fire and put his hands above his head. Keeping my eye riveted to his, I ordered him away from the table, went there myself, felt for the key and sent a warning.
Now that the message had been sent, what was I to do? Stand there covering the man till the train came along? I had been able to save the train; I was not equal to saving myself. I felt a buzzing in my ears, and that was all I know for an interval; then, coming to myself, what was my relief to find the station empty!

Rising, I tottered to the instrument and called the station below. The dispatcher, angry that I had made no reply to his message, began to berate me for being away from the station. As soon as I could stop him I told him what had occurred. Since the man who had left me knew that I had dispatched a warning it was decided that the danger had passed. Then the train came on slowly, but with all hands armed, reaching the station without interruption. It was lucky, however, for the story I had told, that they found material gathered for a barrier, which had either not been made or taken down when it was learned that the plan to rob the express safe was a failure. When the train pulled up at the station every man aboard pointed his rifle at the girl who had covered a desperado with one hand and sent a message with the other. They found her lying on the lounge in a paroxysm of tears.
Well, the next day I sent in my resignation, stating that the work was too hazardous to suit me. I received a reply to go to the city and report at the office of the president. I found most of the directors assembled to meet me, and it was plain that I was a curiosity. I was presented with a check for \$10,000, which the president, when we were alone together, asked me to permit him to invest for me. I consented, and the investment made me independent.

YOUNG FOLKS' CORNER

The Boy Scout Plan.

The scout law, covering the twelve fundamental principles, requires a scout first of all to be trustworthy. That means that he must not tell a lie, cheat or deceive, but keep every trust sacred. A scout is loyal to all to whom loyalty is due, including his scout leader, his home, his parents and his country. Furthermore, a scout is helpful, prepared at all times to save life, help injured persons and do at least one good turn daily. A scout is friendly to all a brother to every other scout. A scout is courteous, especially to women, children and old people, and he must not take any pay for being courteous. A scout is kind to animals, and does not kill or hurt any living creature needlessly. A scout is obedient. A scout is cheerful, even when facing hardship and drudgery. A scout is thrifty. He works faithfully, wastes nothing and makes the best use of his opportunities. A scout is brave and does what he knows is right in spite of fears and threats. A scout is clean in body and thought, stands for clean speech, clean sport, clean habits and travels with a clean crowd. Scouting.

Pussy's Plunge.

Where will these kittens get to next, said Mrs. Smith.

Here is one of them making a house of John's boot and the other rying because it only holds one. It was time while the other was to stop the train for half an hour. Knowing as I did that the train carried an express safe, I understood that these men were but two of a gang intending to stop the train and rob the safe.

If no one helps me I must help myself, said Tommy to Topsy and the sprang up the path intending to sit on the edge. "Yes, poor Tommy!" He slipped and went head first into the milk and, what was worse, he could not get out again. John only came back just in time to save him from drowning. "Get away from there with your funny ideas," he said. "Both kittens must be sent away next day."

And the bucket of new milk had to be given to the cats.

A Means to an End.

Character development is the real objective of the boy scout movement. Every step in the scouting program is but a means to this end. The variety and interest of as well as the practical knowledge insured by the tenderfoot, second class and first class tests are after all, but a means for building the interest of the boy pledged to the scout oath and law under such leadership as will bring about character development. Likewise the whole scheme of merit badges is primarily for this same purpose. The form of troop or pack, the organization and his assistants, the local council and indeed the national council and all of its officers are also but a means to this end. This character development manifests itself in health, efficiency, civility, loyalty, patriotism and good citizenship. Scouting.

Smoking Bad For Boys.

In athletes where all boys like to excel, there is no place whatever for a smoker. Every athlete knows that cigarette smoking hurts the wind, injures the ability of the heart to respond quickly to extra work and impairs the precision of the eye and hand. Two hundred and ten students on a tested for a position on the first team in group of colleges. Of the non-smokers 65 per cent made the teams and of the non-smokers only 37 per cent were successful. Mike Donovan, for thirty years boxing instructor for the New York Athletic club, once said, "Any boy who smokes can never hope to succeed in any line of endeavor." Connie Mack said, "No boy or man can expect to succeed in this world to a high position and continue the use of the cigarette."

The Guinea Pig.

The guinea pig makes a very ugly pet, as it is a friendly little animal that has no bad habits. But doctors seem to think the guinea pig belongs to them exclusively, and whenever they want to find out about a disease they give it to the guinea pig—that is, give the germs of the disease to the pig—and then they await developments. They find out how to treat little boys and girls when they have diseases by watching the effect of medicines upon the guinea pigs to whom the medicine has been administered.

Building a Warship.

Each man-of-war is built upon paper before a single plate of steel is forged. Not only are length and breadth of a ship decided upon, but the naval constructor can tell to an ounce how much water she will displace when her armor and guns are mounted upon her. How many times her propellers will revolve in a minute with a given pressure of steam and how many tons of oil in an hour must be consumed to attain a certain rate of speed.

What Did Auntie Mean?

Auntie says that little pitchers soon have big ears. And then she always says to us, "Now run away my dears!"
One day we searched the cupboard and looked at every one of them. And turned them all about.
But not a single pitcher seemed to have an ear.
And sometimes, I must say, I think my auntie's getting queer.
—Philadelphia Record.

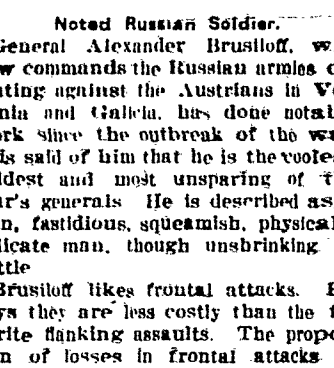
SNAPSHOTS AT NOTABLE PERSONS

General P. A. Roques, French Minister of War.



When General Gallieni, hero of the battle of the Marne, resigned his post as minister of war for France a short time ago he was succeeded by General Pierre A. Roques, best known for his work as an expert in aeronautics. General Roques was trained as an engineer, having entered the Polytechnic school after his regular course in the war college. He was graduated in 1877, at the age of twenty-one and, two years later was assigned to the engineers as a first lieutenant. Later he served in Algiers and Dahomey, and for distinguished services was made a lieutenant colonel.
After several years spent in the office of the war ministry he took charge in 1901 of important public works in Madagascar. Here he so thoroughly established his reputation that when the post of director of engineer corps at the ministry of war became vacant in 1906 he was appointed, with the rank of brigadier general. Three years later he attained the rank of general of division.
From 1910 to 1912 he served as permanent inspector general of aeronautics at a time when the military importance of aviation was beginning to be realized. It is said that the efficiency shown by this arm of the French service during the war is due largely to the fine organization built up by General Roques.
When the present war broke out General Roques was in command of an army corps at Limoges, where he again showed great brilliancy as a leader. He was given command of the first army in January of last year, and for his services was recently decorated with the grand cross of the Legion of Honor and with the military cross.

Noted Russian Soldier.
General Alexander Brusiloff, who now commands the Russian armies operating against the Austrians in Volhynia and Galicia, has done notable work since the outbreak of the war. It is said of him that he is the coolest, boldest and most unsparing of the czar's generals. He is described as a thin, fastidious, squeamish, physically delicate man, though unshrinking in battle.
Brusiloff likes frontal attacks. He says they are less costly than the favorite flanking assaults. The proportion of losses in frontal attacks is greater, he contends, but the absolute



GENERAL ALEXANDER BRUSILOFF.



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