

expostulate with Jacky upon the subject of his besetting sin. Jacky walked according to his light, and never having had much to speak of, he was with difficulty brought to realize the enormity of his offense. Generally speaking he was willing to do anything for his doctor. But he made no secret of the fact that he regarded "Doc" as entirely too particular as to language and utterly oblivious to the immense advantage of a well chosen epithet.

Then the doctor had tried moral suasion to the limit of his patience and saw it fail, he took the privilege of a tried and trusted friend and cuffed Jacky's ears whenever he heard certain suspicious combinations of sound begin to flow. This was an argument Jacky could understand and it proved effective. The little Arab actually learned to converse for the space of ten minutes or more in plain untrimmed English.

He came into the office often and "talked over" various things with his idol. It was a curious spectacle. The busy physician, with his extensive practice, making a thousand claims upon his attention with his exceptional opportunities, his many friendships among the cultured and wealthy, exerting himself to win and hold the friendship of a little half wild child of the streets, who, far from feeling the gulf between them, twinkled up black brows, and calculated with the doctor's assistance upon his small expenditures.

It was late in June. The mother was quite recovered from her cough. She could take in plain sewing and with Jacky's help could get on beautifully. Jacky told the doctor. Jacky was studying nights now, having another spasm of desire to imitate his erudite friend, who was known to be so interested in his books as to often forget to leave his office until morning.

The doctor helped Jacky and Jacky helped the doctor, though Jacky was utterly ignorant of the latter fact, and the doctor partially so.

"Did you do this?" said the doctor as he glanced over the writing Jacky had presented for inspection. "Why, Jacky, we'll make a scholar of you yet."

"I'm going to be a doctor and save peoples lives 'an have my name up in gold letters," he added, as an after thought. "Great, ain't it. If you do have to work like the—like everything. Wait an' see," he said as he dived out of the door.

The doctor whistled. This was a new phase of Jacky.

"Afraid he's going to die," he soliloquized, "getting so good lately. Have his name up in gold letters, the scamp." He chuckled softly to himself as he hunted for a favorite book.

Half an hour later an excited man burst into the office.

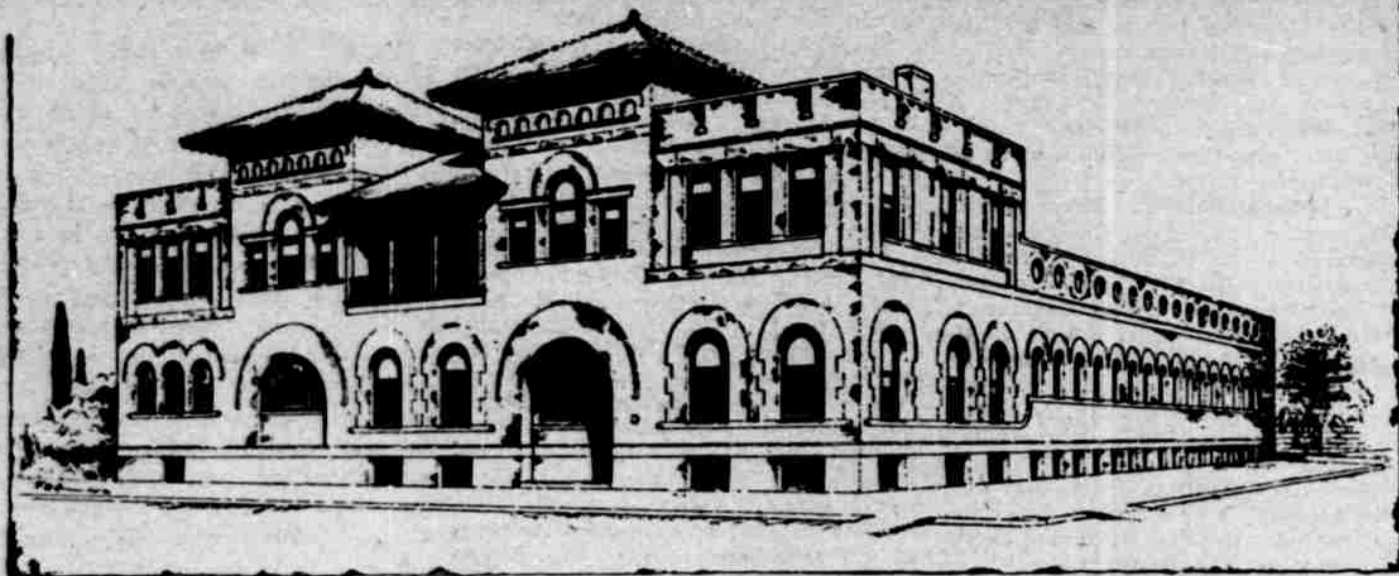
"You're wanted quick down here. Boy hurt. Rushed in front of a loaded truck and pushed another boy out of danger. Got it himself though. Pretty near done for I guess."

The doctor pushed through the little crowd of men in the drug store until he stood over the little bundle huddled on a counter. A man had an arm under the boy's head. When the doctor saw him he said roughly. "Let me there. It's my boy."

At the sound of his voice the gray eyes flew wide open and a pale little smile flickered over the face and Jacky said in a weak little voice.

"Hullo Doc. Awful glad you've come. It was Neally. You know Neally. I've ficked him lot's o' times. He got away. I just got there in time. Awful lucky I saw him."

And so Jacky is not a doctor after



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all. But his name is "up in gold letters," nevertheless.

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