



"They came to me — I came to you." Contributed by Frank Godwin.

The Maker of Bandages

Red Cross Workers Solve in One Minute the Mystery of the Stony Hearted Mrs. Britt.

By MAXIMILIAN FOSTER
Of the Vigilantes.

A diamond is not the hardest thing in the world. A diamond will cut glass and bore through case hardened, tempered chrome steel, but glass and steel—the diamond itself too—are soft compared to some things. The hardest thing in the world is a hard woman.

Mrs. Britt was such a woman.

I have seen hard women in my time, but never one who was harder. She smiled seldom, and when she smiled it was like the glitter of ice. She spoke infrequently, and when she spoke her speech was the tinkle of hail on slate roofing. She did not look as if she had ever wept in her life.

Every morning Mrs. Britt appeared at the Red Cross auxiliary in upper Broadway. She was the first to arrive in the morning, the last to leave at night. No one knew much about her, though. She was not the sort that make confidences. But that she was a worker—a hard worker—no one would dispute. Efficiency, as you'd suppose, was a trait of Mrs. Britt's.

Are Efficient Women Hard?

Efficiency—dreadful word that! How often hard women are efficient! How often efficient woman are hard! She was both, Mrs. Britt. The moment she came in at the door she had her hat and jacket off. The next instant she was at her place, her mouth set, grim, austere and hard—hard at work. Probably she did her work only from a sense of duty. Hard women always profess that trait. Duty, duty! But, then, few women are as hard as Mrs. Britt.

In contrast to her was Mrs. Farlow. She was soft and womanly and gentle—the exact opposite. She was not very efficient, of course, though she tried. Day after day Mrs. Farlow sat at the work table, her mouth quivering, smiling wistfully, the tears starting in her eyes. The bandages that came from her were often soiled and rumpled, poorly sewn, too, by her poor little trembling fingers. It was a wonder she could even see to sew at all. Again and again what she turned in had to be thrown away.

But no one reprimanded her. No one even felt a hint that she was more of a burden than a help. The hearts of all those women ached with womanly pity for the poor, stricken mother. Once in awhile, though, in her corner at the back of the room Mrs. Britt would turn around and throw a glance at her. The glance was as hard as rocks—harder, in fact.

Mrs. Farlow had a son in the Rainbow division. The son was the oldest of her four children, and until he went away the little mother had been the happiest woman in the world. Now any day he might be ordered off to France.

His picture was in the locket she wore. Every half hour she would stop her work to look at it. Sometimes, her face wistful, she would show it to the other workers, voicing the anguish that with every waking breath she drew twanged hollowly in her mother's heart. One afternoon Mrs. Farlow's oldest daughter came hurrying in. Her face was white. She had just learned that the Rainbow division had been ordered overseas.

Mrs. Farlow rose, her face tragic. One glance she gave about her, then she collapsed, sinking to the floor. In her fall she overturned a huge pile of antiseptic gauze just torn into squares for Triangulars No. 13.

The room instantly was in confusion. Instantly every one sprang to the mother's aid—that is, every one but Mrs. Britt. She rose and rescued the bandages under foot. Then, her face hard as nails, grimly Mrs. Britt went back to her work. When Mrs. Farlow, still stricken, was led away to her car outside the drab figure in the corner was plugging away as mechanically and methodically as ever. The one glance she threw over her shoulder at the weeping woman was almost contemptuous.

A hard woman, Mrs. Britt; a heartless one, too, it was agreed.

For days nothing was seen at the auxiliary of Mrs. Farlow. It was understood that in her grief and apprehension she was ill in bed. Then one afternoon, pallid and quivering, she came in at the door. She smiled wistfully when the others gathered about her. "Let me work," she appealed plaintively. "Work may help me not to think."

Her Bandages Worthless.

She took a bandage and tried to sew. She made poor work of it, however. Then her head sank on her breast and the bandage slipped from her hands. "I can't—oh, I can't!" she wept.

Once more she was led away.

The same thing happened three or four days later. A week later the mother wandered in again. By now the first of the troops were in the trenches, and her pale, transparent face was like a wraith's. She took a bandage; she tried to sew, and for a third time Mrs. Farlow gave in.

"Oh, my boy, my boy!" she wailed.

The next instant a face was thrust into hers. The face was Mrs. Britt's, and the hard, bony visage was quivering with ill concealed anger and contempt.

"Sit down! Stop it!" said Mrs. Britt. With one hand she thrust Mrs.

Farlow back on her chair; with the other she thrust at her the half finished bandage. Her tone as grim as her face, she spoke, and again the sound of it was like hail pattering on slate. "You're not thinking of your son," she said. "You're just thinking of yourself!"

There was a murmur of remonstrance. Mrs. Britt heard it, and she flashed a look about her. But when she spoke again it was to Mrs. Farlow she spoke.

Think of Your Son.

"You're not the only mother in this war," she said. "If you thought a little more about them and a little less about yourself you'd be doing something. You'd be helping your son, for one thing!"

"Why, what do you mean?" gasped Mrs. Farlow.

Mrs. Britt smiled another adamant, icy smile.

"Your son wouldn't die for want of care. Any one of those bandages I've seen you ruin might save his life. Any one of them might save the life of some other mother's son!"

Mrs. Farlow shrank as if she had been struck. She'd never thought of it that way before.

The silence, the grim reserve, which had cloaked Mrs. Britt seemed for a moment to quit her. "I have no son," she said, her flinty voice biting out the words. "I had one, but he died at Guantanamo. It was in the Spanish war," snarled Mrs. Britt, "and there were no bandages—nothing. That's why he died. That's why I'm here now. It's to keep other women—mothers—from becoming the sort of woman I am." A harsh, brittle laugh escaped her. "Oh, I know what you think of me. I've heard what you said. Well," said Mrs. Britt, "my son wouldn't have died like that maybe if I hadn't sat around sniffing and snuffling, never doing a thing."

Then, her lips drawn into a bony smile, she glanced about her once more and stalked back to her place in the corner.

That night Mrs. Farlow rose from her place at the bandage table and sought the table at the back. For the first time that day Mrs. Farlow had managed to create half a dozen bandages, none of which had to be thrown away. Timidly she held out a band to the drab, dingy figure in the corner.

"I—I've done better today," she said timidly.

Mrs. Britt looked up at her. Out of the corner of one glassy eye something welled, then fell, running slowly down her cheek.

"He was only twenty. He was all I had," said Mrs. Britt.

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THE IMPORTED PERCHERON STALLION "NABOB"
No. 97352

Will make the season of 1918 as follows:
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at the Morgans Feed and Sale Barn, North Platte, Neb., beginning April 9th.
Balance of the week, except Sunday, at my farm six miles west of North Platte and three-fourths of a mile southeast of Birdwood switch.

NABOB was foaled May 24, 1913, and imported with this mother by North & Robinson, of Grand Island, in July, 1913. Was bred by M. Desprez, Department of Orne, in France. This horse weighs 1780, is clean and sound in every particular, and is as good as you will find anywhere.

We invite you to come and see this horse.

TERMS—\$15.00 to insure colt to stand and suck. If mares are disposed of or leave the country service fee becomes due and payable at once. Care will be taken to prevent accidents, but should any occur stallion owner will not be responsible.

FRANK STROLLBERG,
OWNER.

"TREMEAU"
No. 66676
DARK DAPPLE GRAY
Percheron Stallion

Will make the season of 1918 at my place five miles east of Hershey and seven miles west of North Platte on the Lincoln Highway

This stallion has passed the examination required by the government and was pronounced nearly perfect.

TERMS—\$12.00 to insure living colt to stand and suck. In case mare is disposed of, fee becomes due at once. Will not be responsible for accidents.

Chas. L. Leyoldt.

Notice of Petition.
Estate No. 1559 of Marie L. Cohn, deceased in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, To all persons interested in said Estate take notice that a petition has been filed for the appointment of J. E. Evans as Administrator of said estate, which has been set for hearing herein on May 24, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m.
Dated April 23, 1918.
Wm. H. C. WOODHURST,
a30-m21 County Judge.

Notice of Creditors.
Estate No. 1555 of Henry C. Bretzer, deceased in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said Estate is December 7, 1918, and for settlement of said Estate is May 3, 1919; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on June 7, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on December 7, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Wm. H. C. WOODHURST,
m7-4wks. County Judge.

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Notice.
Notice is hereby given that by virtue of an order of Bruno O. Hostetter, Judge of the District Court of Buffalo County, Nebraska, made on December 3, 1917, and modified on February 1, 1918, for the sale of the real estate hereinafter described, there will be sold at the East Front Door of the Court House in North Platte, Nebraska, on May 23d, 1918, at 10 o'clock a. m. Standard time, on said day at public vendue, to the highest bidder, the following described real estate, to-wit: The undivided two-thirds of the North Half (N. 2/3) of the Northeast Quarter (N.E. 1/4), and the North Half (N. 1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (N.W. 1/4) of Section 17, Town 10, Range 29, in Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon the following terms, to-wit: One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be due and payable in three years from April 1, 1917. Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) to be due and payable in five years from said date, bearing Seven per cent (7%) interest from said date, to be secured by first mortgage on the whole of said one hundred and sixty acres, which mortgage shall contain a clause that the mortgagor shall pay all taxes that may be levied and assessed against said mortgage, and the purchaser shall pay the taxes on said premises for the year 1917, and all sums paid above said deferred payments, shall be paid in cash. Said sale shall remain open for one hour.

BENJAMIN ARMITAGE,
As Guardian of Louise Morrison and Sidney G. Morrison, Minors.
N. P. McDONALD,
a30-m17 Attorney for Guardian.

Notice to Creditors.
Estate No. 1560 of Amanda M. Thomson, deceased in the county court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is August 31, 1918, and for settlement of said estate is April 26, 1919; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on May 31, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on August 31, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Wm. H. C. WOODHURST,
a30-4wks. County Judge.

Legal Notice.
William A. Hayes, defendant will take notice that on the 27th day of March, 1918, Coates Lumber & Coal Co. plaintiff herein, filed its petition and affidavit for attachment in the county court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, against William A. Hayes, the object and prayer of which is to collect from defendant the sum of \$1,000.00 for goods, wares and merchandise sold defendant by plaintiff on an account stated. That the following property of defendant has been attached in said action to-wit: One Elcar Automobile, and money of the defendant in the First National Bank of North Platte, has been attached by garnishee process.
Plaintiff prays for an order that such attached property and money be applied to the satisfaction of the amount found to be due the plaintiff. You are required to answer said petition on or before June 10th, 1918. COATES LUMBER & COAL COMPANY, Plaintiff,
By Hoagland & Hoagland, its Attys.

Notice of Final Report.
Estate No. 1520 of Anna M. O'Rourke, deceased in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, to all persons interested in said Estate take notice that the Administrator has filed a final account and report of his administration and a petition for final settlement and discharge as such, which have been set for hearing before said court on May 31, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., when you can appear and contest same.
Dated May 1, 1918.
Wm. H. C. WOODHURST,
m7-3 wks. County Judge.

Notice to Creditors.
Estate No. 1552 of Max Beer, deceased in the county court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said Estate is August 24, 1918, and for settlement of said Estate is April 17, 1919; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on May 24, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m. and on August 24, 1918, at 9 a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Wm. H. C. WOODHURST,
a23-m21 County Judge.

SHERIFF'S SALE.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Nebraska Central Building & Loan Association is plaintiff, and Jesse Fellows, et al. are defendants, and to me directed, I will on the 25th day of May, 1918, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the Court House in North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit:
Lot Seven (7) in Block Twelve (12) Cody's Addition to North Platte, Nebraska.
Dated at North Platte, Neb., April 23d, 1918.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

To all whom it may concern:
The special commissioner appointed to locate a road as follows:
Commencing at the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of section fifteen (15), town nine (9), range twenty-eight (28), thence running east eighty rods on section line between section fifteen (15) and twenty-two (22), thence south through section twenty-two (22) and twenty-seven (27) intersecting with road No. 96, proposed road to be sixty-six feet in width, and to vacate portion of road No. 96 running through center of section twenty-two (22) and twenty-seven (27), thence running (80) eighty rods east from the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section twenty-seven (27), town nine (9), range twenty-eight (28), on section line between section twenty-seven (27) and thirty-four (34), has reported as follows: Beginning at the 1/4 section between sections 15 and 22 T. 9, N. R. 28, W. of 6th P. M., running thence east on line between said sections 15 and 22 a distance of 20 chains to the NE corner of NW 1/4 NE 1/4 of said section 22, thence south on the 1-16 section line through sections 22 and 27 to the SE corner SW 1/4 SE 1/4 of section 27 all in T. 9, N. R. 28 W.; there to connect again with road No. 96. And he reports also in favor of vacating that part of road No. 96 running through the center of said sections 22 and 27 and against vacating that part of road No. 96 running on line between section 27 and 34 from the 1/4 section corner east 1/4 mile.

All objections thereto or claims for damages must be filed in the office of the County Clerk on or before noon of the 20th day of June, 1918, or said road will be allowed without reference thereto.
Dated at North Platte, Neb., this 15th day of April, 1918.
A. S. ALLEN, County Clerk.

Road No. 416.
The special commissioner appointed to locate a road as follows:
Commencing at about 100 rods south from the north section line of section 9, town 10, range 26 on the public road in Gilman canyon; thence southwest through the SW 1/4 of section 9, town 10, range 26; thence west through section (8) eight, and then angling southwest through section 7 and section 18 to Public road No. 339 following said road running through these sections as near as practical known as Buzzard Roost road. Length of road about three miles, and said road to be 66 feet wide, has reported as follows: Beginning at a point on the west line of Road No. 63 in the W 1/2 NE 1/4 of section 9, T. 10, N. R. 26, W. of the 6th P. M. about 26 chains south from the north line of said section 9, thence in a southwesterly direction through the west half of northeast quarter of said section 9, and through sections 8, 7 and 18, said township and range to connect with Road No. 339 in the NW 1/4 of said section 18.

All claims for damages or objections thereto must be filed on or before noon of the 20th day of June, 1918 in the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, Nebraska, or such road will be allowed without reference thereto.
Dated at North Platte, Neb., this 15th day of April, 1918.
A. S. ALLEN, County Clerk.

Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said Court wherein James A. Fike, is plaintiff, and Will Outtrim is defendant, and to me directed, I will on the 8th day of June, 1918, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the Court House in North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit:
Northwest one-fourth (NW 1/4) of section twenty-nine (29) in township sixteen (16) north of range thirty-two (32) west of the sixth P. M. Lincoln County, Nebraska.
Dated North Platte, Neb., May 6th, 1918.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

To Alfred L. Armstrong, non-resident, defendant: You are hereby notified that on the 16th day of January, 1918, Addie F. Armstrong filed a petition against you in the district court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a divorce from you on the ground of abandonment. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 3rd day of June, 1918.
ADDIE F. ARMSTRONG,
By Geo. N. Gibbs, Her Attorney.
a23-m17.

Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Mutual Building and Loan Association is plaintiff, and Jesse Fellows, et al. are defendants, and to me directed, I will on the 25th day of May, 1918, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the Court House in North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit:
Lot Seven (7) in Block Twelve (12) Cody's Addition to North Platte, Nebraska.
Dated at North Platte, Neb., April 23d, 1918.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Nebraska Central Building & Loan Association is plaintiff, and Jesse Fellows, et al. are defendants, and to me directed, I will on the 11th day of May, 1918, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit:
Lot Two (2) of Block One Hundred ten (110) of the Original town of the city of North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska.
Dated North Platte, Neb., April 8th, 1918.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.