

ROSES

By JACK LAWTON.

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The girl stood undecidedly at the street corner. Her pretty brows were puckered in a frown, which vanished as her gaze fell upon a neatly painted sign. "Home for Women Employed," the sign read. "Terms Very Reasonable. References Required."

With a sigh of relief, the girl turned up her collar against the night breeze, and crossed to the white stone building of the home. Inside the lighted hall she paused breathlessly before the matron's desk.

The girl felt all at once as a prisoner may feel beneath the judicial eye. As coldly searching was the matron's inspection of her own small figure.

"You came," the woman asked, "in the interest of an applicant to the home?"

"I am the applicant," the girl replied.

The experienced one stared. "You will pardon me," she said brusquely; "we are not accustomed to receive girls who are able to pay for lodging elsewhere. This home is endowed, and for those only in the humblest circumstances."

"I," said the girl again, "have no more money tonight than will pay for my lodging with you."

"But, my dear young woman," the matron persisted, "your clothing—your furs alone indicate unlimited means."

Abruptly the woman turned to her books.

"Miss Jane Page, Shore Acres, Cliff-town," the girl answered steadily.

"The name of Miss Page is, of course, known in charitable circles," the matron said. "Be seated while I call her on the telephone."

Presently the woman looked up from her quest.

"Miss Page is not at home," she said, "and I am not sure that I would be justified in accommodating you, under the circumstances. Our rule is—"

A cheery young person coming from an inner sewing room smiled.

"Oh! what a night, Mrs. Smith," she coaxed. "Let her stay. She can bunk with me. They're two beds in my room. Anyway, it's cold out, and even if the lady's clothes are swell, maybe she hasn't real money."

Mrs. Smith regarded the volunteer samaritan indulgently.

"That spirit of yours, Hedda," she said, "would take in the whole town."

The glance she bestowed upon the waiting applicant was softened.

"Your name, then?" she asked.

"Janie Leslie," the girl answered.

Gratefully her eyes sought those of her intercessor.

"All right," Hedda ended the interview; "come with me, and I'll show you our cell."

The name was fittingly given. Janie Leslie thought, as she entered the narrow sleeping room, with its bare necessities for comfort. But between Hedda's little bed and the one she herself was to occupy stood on the cell's one chair a great vase of roses, all in crimson bloom, in snow time.

The new guest bent her face delightfully to the flowers.

"It's like life," she said to Hedda.

"In life's hardest, most unlikely places we come upon roses of comfort, like your kindness tonight to me, a stranger."

"Oh, that was nothing," gestured Hedda. "You were down on your luck. Maybe tomorrow you'll be up again. But me," Hedda shrugged resignedly, "I'm down all the time."

"Tell me," said Janie Leslie, impulsively.

"Not much to tell," Hedda replied, "only I thought it might help you to know they was others in hard places, too. I've got a job in the basement at Kahill's that keeps me here, all right, but I can't do what I ought to do for Tad. He's my little brother. I've raised him, some way, since our folks died. But the doctors say he ought to go away now for two or three years—where the air is clearer. Two years is longer than we can see to make it. I got Tad a job driving a florist's wagon so he can be in the air. That's where my roses come from. They let Tad have 'em when they're going to fall. He's the best and bravest kid—" Hedda gulped. "That's my streak of hard luck," she finished. "We all have 'em. Good-night."

"Good night," said Janie Leslie softly; "good night—dear."

When Hedda awakened next morning she found her guest already departed. While an important young business man was greatly surprised at being greeted by that young person when he arrived in his office.

"Jane Page!" he cried, "where have you been?"

"Spending the night at the 'Home for Women Employed,'" she answered sweetly. "It was not in search of adventure this time, Billy," she hastened to add at his frown of disapproval. "I came to the city last night with money in my change purse alone. When I searched my bag I found that I had forgotten to drop my pocketbook in. Just as I decided to call you on the phone that sign loomed up, beckoning me, Billy, a direct message. I went to the home."

Janie Leslie Page laughed softly. "I had to give my own name as reference," she said. "And there I found Hedda. Billy, dearest, can you find a place for an untrained girl in your office. I knew you could. You always make me happy. I'm going to be happier when Tad gets his chance. I will tell you about Tad—and Hedda."

Loggers Use Electricity.

A lumber company cutting timber from one of the national forests has installed over a mile of electric transmission line through the woods to supply an electric logging engine with power. It is planned ultimately to use electricity for the entire camp. Current is developed at the mill. Since many forest fires start from logging equipment and camps, the government foresters regard the introduction of electrical equipment with much favor.

Portable Electric Grinder.

A portable electric grinder for the machine shop, designed to be moved over the work, has the motor of one-eighth to one-half horsepower placed above the work out of the operator's way. The spindle is bored with a five-sixteenth-inch hole to receive an adjustable shaft for interior grinding, and the use of interchangeable grinding wheels adapts the little machine to a wide range of work.

Anxious.

A city school principal was rushing along the street the other day when a youngster about eight years old stopped her. "Are you the principal at Blank building?" he asked.

The principal nodded her head. "Why? Do you go there?" she asked in turn.

"No," he returned. "I go to another building. But I just wanted to know if the lickin' had begun at your building yet?"

PRaises Women of NIPPON

California Newspaper Speaks in Highest Terms of Those Who Reside in That State.

Japan is a wonderful nation in a very great many ways. It has accomplished marvels, it has leaped forward at almost a single bound into a front place among the world powers, but we are convinced that the greatest thing about Japan is its women.

All women are, of course, charming, but our observation is that the women of Japan are especially and particularly so. We see much of them here in California, and we have an opportunity to judge.

To begin with, the majority of them are very pretty, and all of them have a certain grace that can come only from centuries of gentleness and good breeding. They have soft voices. There is an irresistible appeal in their manners.

It is often commented that the men of Japan have adapted themselves to Western ways with an incredible ease. But they have not equaled their women in the performance of this difficult feat for an Oriental race to adapt itself to Occidental customs and habits.

In many social functions as well as in public, numerous Japanese women have been seen here in California. The grace of their bearing and the charm of their manners have deeply impressed all with whom they have come in contact. Japan is a nation that had no music, yet the most popular singer on the operatic stage today is a Japanese woman. And this is only an instance of their conquests.

We do not think there is any reason to worry about what Japan will or will not do in the world. Any nation that can produce such women as that nation produces will not only succeed, but will endure.—Los Angeles Times.

Be Sure You Are Right.

It's a good thing to assure yourself before taking important steps. Sometimes you are too busy to give much time to things. At other times you may be too sure of yourself. Both cases are full of calamity. To be sure you may be able to do the right thing by intuition and do it with haste. As a rule the great things of life upon which important matters hang take time. You must know the facts if you are to advise others. You must know the facts to be able to make success of things. Remember it's not the amount of energy you put into a thing that gets results. A locomotive out of control is a mad thing of unlimited energy. The very power is the danger. It must be regulated to make it useful.—Exchange.

SHOULD END ALL ARGUMENT

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The occasion was a reunion of the Civil war soldiers of Ohio. President Hayes was a guest of honor and most of the living generals of the Civil war were present. The addresses were made in the open at Franklin park. It was raining hard when General Sherman's turn came to speak, but he stood out uncovered and delivered his short speech. As published, it contained just 308 words. Alluding to the fact that old soldiers did not mind the rain, he continued:

"You all know that this is not soldiering. There is many a boy here today who thinks war is all glory, but, boys, it is all hell. You can hear that warning to generations yet to come. I look upon it with horror, but, if it has to come, I am here."

This last clause brought great applause and when it subsided the general proceeded on another line of thought.

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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 March 19th, 1920, and for settlement of said estate is November 13th, 1920; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on December 18th, 1919, at 10 o'clock a. m., and on March 19, 1920, at 10 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.

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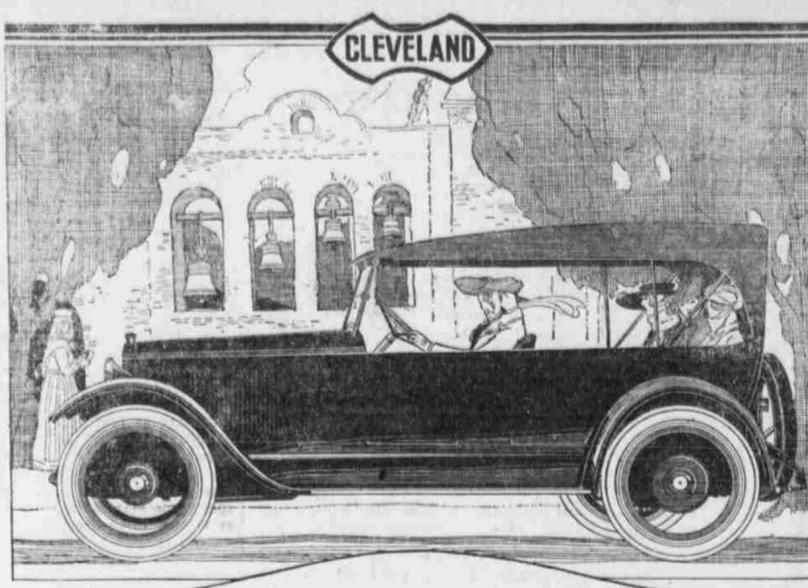
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