

# Reaping Rewards from Resolutions

By FRANKLIN O. KING

Do You Remember That Old Story about Robert Bruce and the Spider? Robert was hiding in a cave. His enemies had him "in the hole." Temporarily, so to speak. As it were. While reflecting on the Rocky Road to Royalty, Robert, the Bruce, espied a Spider spinning his web over the entrance to the cavern. Nine times did the Spider swing across the opening in a vain attempt to effect a landing, but the Tenth Time he touched the Home Plate, and Robert, admiring the Persistence of the Insect, cried out loud—"Bravo." Two or Three Times, One Right After the Other. Shortly After That Bruce Got Busy and Captured a Kingdom.

All of This Preamble is Intended to Point a Moral, which is—"If At First You Don't Succeed, Slap on More Steam, and Sand the Track." In This Connection I want to Inquire about Your New Year's Resolutions, and to Ask If You Have Kept the Faith, and If Not—Why Not? I Believe the Pathway to Prosperity is Paved with Good Resolutions. Therefore, let Us Resolve, and Keep Resolving until Victory is Perched on our Banners. Remember, You Have Fought Many a Victorious Waterloo that the World Knows Nothing About. The Man who Gets Up every Time He Falls Down Will Some Day Cease to be a "Fall Guy." Good Resolutions Will Be Rewarded with Rich Realizations, and It Shall Follow as the Night the Day.

How Much Better Off are You than Last Year, or the Year Before That? Perhaps Your Wages are a Little Higher, but Have not Your Expenses More than Kept Pace with That Increase? Aren't You Paying a Little More for Your Clothes and Your Meals, and don't You Smoke More Expensive Cigars and more of Them than Formerly? If It Isn't Cigars, It may be Something Else—Some More Expensive Habit. A Man Begins to Go Down Hill at Forty, and the time may come when a Younger Man—perhaps a Cheaper Man—will fill your job. The Man Who Looks Ahead will prepare himself for that time by getting a Home. My advice to You, therefore, is to Get a Home while you are able to do so—and Begin Now. I would further advise you to Get a Home in the Gulf Coast Country of Texas. Since Investigating Conditions in the Rain Belt of Gulf Coast Texas, I have no Fear of



Two Texas Gulf Coast Products

Old Age or Poverty, because I know I can Take up a Few Acres down there and be Absolutely Independent. I am Firmly Convinced that with Average Intelligence and Average Industry, any Man who is now Working His Head off in the North to make a Bare Living, where they Snatch One Crop between Snowstorms and Blizzards, can soon Lay Up a Nice Bank Account in the Winter Garden of America. Come to the Land of Least Resistance, where You can Grow Three Big Money-Making Crops a Year on the Same Soil and Without a Dollar's Worth of Expense for Irrigation or Fertilization.

I believe you could save Twenty-Five Cents a Day if You Tried. I know you would Try if you Realized that our Growers of Figs, Strawberries and Early Vegetables clear a net profit of \$500 to \$500 an Acre. Men have Realized more than \$1,000 an acre growing Oranges in our Country. Remember that our Early Vegetables get to Northern Markets in Mid-Winter and Early Spring, when they command Top Prices.

One German Truck Grower on adjoining lands last spring realized nearly \$500 from three-fourths of an acre of Strawberries. You could do as well if you only Tried, and on a Ten-Acre Tract Find Financial Freedom.

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Please send me your book, "Independence With Ten Acres."

"Yes, I know, I know!" she murmured, fumbling nervously with a fold of her dress.

When he spoke again it was to ask abruptly: "Katherine, have you any bromide here?"

"You know I never take anything like that. I'm afraid of growing to need it too much."

"That's right, you should n't take it. But tonight I'm going to give you some before I go. You're all aquiver, and I can't have you awake all night." He smiled. "You know, you're going to get well and strong now, so we can afford to steal this one night's sleep."

She smiled faintly. "It's good to be waited on and looked after."

He crushed back the answer that came to his lips. Any expression of his own love would only distress her. Then he said good-night very quietly, without any further reference to the morrow.

That night she slept deeply, deliciously—the sleep of one utterly wearied.

It was after nine when she awoke with a startled feeling of something pending, something momentous that was before her. What was it? Bewildered, she gazed about the room. Then in a flash it all swept back.

It was today! He would probably see him today! And now she was full of fears, of apprehensions. Her whole life depended on that interview. With all Will's tact and delicacy, still might he not make mistakes? He knew so little of the man he was to approach, and yet he was to approach him about the most difficult and delicate thing of which one man can speak to another.

It was ten when she called up his office; he was always there at that time. But the stenographer answered that Mr. Bennett had been in and gone out again, and had left no word as to when he would be back.

She waited half an hour and then called again. But he had not returned. By this time she was feverishly anxious and unstrung. Again she called; and then began hurriedly to dress. She would go down to his office. Action of any kind would be easier than waiting here.

She took a taxicab to a subway station and an express train from there. To reach his office as soon as possible—her mind held no other thought. She had had no breakfast, which increased the feeling of sick, trembling weakness.

"Mr. Bennett just 'phoned he would be in at 11:30," his stenographer informed her when she entered. "He said he had an appointment here at that time, and it's almost that now. Will you wait?"

Katherine nodded and turned toward a small reception hall that lay between the main room and his private office. She waited there a few moments and then opened the door on the ground glass of which was the word "Private." For a second she hesitated, then entered, closing the door after her.

He would have wanted her to come in here, she assured herself. He would not have wished her to wait outside. She sank into the revolving chair before his desk. Her head ached cruelly, and she was trembling with sheer nervous weakness. She suddenly realized that her rushing down here had been very foolish and wholly unnecessary. She had only to leave word, and he would so willingly have come to her.

There were voices now in the outer office. Had he come? She rose and turned toward the door. Then she stopped and caught blindly at a chair.

His voice! "Mr. Bennett asked me to be here at 11:30," curtly. "It's ten minutes past that now."

Then the stenographer's voice: "He'll be here in a moment, I'm sure. He's always punctual about his appointments."

Wildly she was looking around for some means of escape. He was just outside the door she had entered. There was another door—she sprang toward it! But it was only a closet lined with shelves of files and papers.

Then Will's voice: "I am sorry to have been detained."

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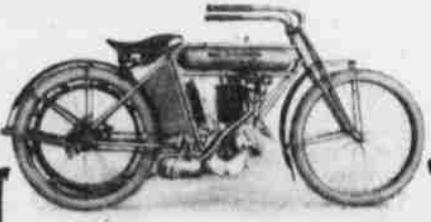
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