

BRIDE of BATTLE

A Romance of the American Army Fighting on the Battlefields of France

By VICTOR ROUSSEAU

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SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I—Mark Wallace, a young officer in the United States army, is wounded at the battle of Santiago. While wandering alone in the jungle he comes across a dead man in a hut outside of which a little girl is playing. When he is rescued, he takes the girl to the hospital and announces his intention of adopting her.

CHAPTER II.

He stopped, astonished at the way the Major took his suggestion. Howard began to stutter, paced the inside of the tent for some moments, muttering to himself, and then swung round upon his heel, facing the lieutenant.

"Good God, no, Wallace! Whatever put that infernal idea into your head?" he exploded. "See here, now! You're not well enough to talk this thing over tonight. Some day I'll tell you why your proposal is impossible."

"That's all very well, Major. I don't know what you mean, but if you don't like my proposition you know what you can do. I'm quite well enough to listen to what's worrying you. Dig it out!"

"I haven't time, Wallace. There's these stragglers to be sorted out. Not that much can be done tonight, I suppose. Sometime I'll tell you—"

He swung round on his heel and made for the entrance, stopped and returned.

"Well, you know what happened, more or less. There was a woman gone between, as there generally is—a fine-looking young woman, little more than a girl, named Hilda Morshelm. One of those French-German Alsations, Wallace. Kellerman got some hold on her, and she confessed. The case against Hampton was absolutely proven."

"There wasn't any trial. The fellow could have been shut up for a good many years; he had cost his country millions; he ought to have been hanged. But he was quietly cashiered and allowed to disappear. Maybe it was a foolish move, but we felt the shame pretty badly and wanted to forget it. Hampton was let go, on the understanding that he leave the country forever. Oh, yes, he assumed the innocent air quite dramatically. Some of the war office people believed in him until the damning documents were laid before them."

"And he was still somehow in touch with things, Wallace, and the leakages went on afterward. That's why we had orders to hang him as soon as Santiago was taken. He did the kindest thing he could have done to himself when he got in the way of that sniper's bullet."

"I'll tell you who the child's mother was, Wallace, because I was unfortunate enough to know her. She was a Miss Rennie, Miss Marjorie Rennie, of a Baltimore family—fine people, and, of course, with a tradition like that, she believed in the scoundrel absolutely. She came to me twice. The first time was before the informal trial held by the department. She begged me to believe he was innocent and the victim of a trap. I wouldn't even listen. You know, when a man has to run down his friend he has to harden his heart."

"She came to me again, after Hampton was broken. She told me I had played false to my best friend and that I'd suffer for it to the last day of my life. I've never forgotten that interview, and you can guess how it made me mad to hang Hampton when we learned that he was still keeping up the game from his exile in Cuba. He must have got quite a number of confidential papers out of the war office. That's about all."

"It's enough," said Wallace. "The girl married him, then?"

"So much we learned. And also that she died later. You see, we've been pretty close on the fellow's track the last couple of years—ever since the war became a probability, in fact. Most of the officers in the regiment are since that time, but I guess they all knew something, and kept it quiet, like you."

Wallace nodded. "I fancy there's a good deal of feeling," he said.

"Quite a good deal," said the major, dryly. "And I guess you'll agree with me that this makes it—let's say, a little difficult to adopt his child officially?"

"You mean the remembrance would be too bitter?"

"I mean that that position is the one and only position that she is disqualified from holding, by reason of birth."

"Still," urged Wallace, "it isn't in the blood. The mother was decent. Why should that baby be tarnished with her father's treachery?"

"It's written in the Good Book—"

"And there's something else about

where Wallace still sat upright on the bed. He noticed, with a certain grimness of spirit, that one of the lieutenant's hands rested on the child's fair hair.

"Well, Wallace?" he asked. "It's damnable."

"We can't exactly make his child the regimental pet, can we?"

Wallace was silent, and the Major sat down on the edge of the bed beside him.

"I had orders to watch for him," he said. "He was to have been hanged as soon as we captured Santiago. That's why he was making for the jungle. He was detected and allowed to escape with his life, but he had been working as a Spanish agent since he was drummed out of America. His career ended at the luckiest moment for him. He seems to have had the one redeeming quality of affection for the child, though if he had had a particle of unselfishness in him he would have left her behind him. I suppose she was the only thing he had in his wretched life."

"Of course there's no palliation," suggested Wallace. "But the man may have been born good and—gone downhill."

"He was born rotten," answered the Major. "He sold his country to pay his gambling debts. Cuba was about the only place that would hold him, I imagine. And to think that swine was once in our regiment! Sorry I had to tell you, Wallace!"

He hesitated a while; Wallace had not moved; but the child at his side stirred and breathed heavily. The major's fists clenched.

"I'm trying to be just to the dead," he said. "But I feel that a thousand years of hell wouldn't atone for that crime, Wallace."

Mark Wallace looked up. "I'm not sure that I know all the facts about the case, Major," he said.

"The facts are that it was no sudden act of fear or temptation, but calculated, cold-blooded deliberation. We knew at the war office that there was a leakage. It had been traced to the mobilization division, where Kellerman and I were working. Even we were under suspicion for a time. Then it narrowed down to Hampton and another."

"Wallace, those months were the worst time I've ever spent. Hampton was my best friend, and Kellerman's, too. We spied on him—had to."

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coals of fire, too, Major, which came as a sort of revision of the old law. It's just what we ought to do, because it's the only way to adjust the matter."

"Adjust it? Adjust what?" cried the Major, with sudden passion.

"The whole of that hellish business, Major. The man was once an officer of the Seventieth. He's dead and his crimes have died with him. We want to forget that such a thing could have happened, and the only way is to leave him to God's judgment and to cast out all bitterness from our hearts. You quoted Scripture to me—well, I gave you the answer from the same Book. Let death bring oblivion to the man's memory. He's left us the child. Start here. Start fresh. I have the right to the kid, but what you have told me makes me feel strongly that there's a Providence in this affair, and I'll lend her to you—mark that word, Major!—on that condition or none."

Major Howard pulled at his mustache in agitation. "You don't really mean it, Wallace?" he asked.

"I do. If you want me to let you take her till the war's over—"

"It means forgiving that black-guard."

"It means forgetting him and letting the Judge judge."

"It goes against every instinct. I'd bring her up away from the regimental life. Besides, there are the others."

"Who else knows?"

"Well, of course, nobody else knows who the dead man was. The colonel will have to know. But he needn't know we've adopted the child. He's going South after the war. However, I'm afraid Kellerman knows. He recognized what was left of the face, or suspected somehow. I could tell from his manner."

"I don't see any overwhelming difficulty in that. You can trust Kellerman?"

The major nodded, and it occurred to Wallace that he would rather trust any of the officers than Kellerman. He had conceived a prejudice against him which he could not have explained.

"And Hampton's name was erased from the old mess list," Wallace continued.

The major, who had been pulling at his mustache and thinking deeply, came to his decision.

"Well, I'll take her on those terms, Wallace," he said. "The fellow was a bad lot, but, as you say, there may be no reason why this little animal should suffer for his sins. The mother was decent, and there may be something in that idea of a vicarious restitution. I'll agree, Wallace, if you'll let me take over the charge of her till the war's ended. We'll enter her on the mess book and settle a fictitious parentage on her afterward, and may she never know her father's history. By the time she's old enough to understand a man's duties, flirt with the lieutenants, and plead for the drunks, maybe we'll have forgotten it ourselves. Good-night, my boy. Take care of your wound. I'll send in that milk and biscuit and a couple of cakes of naphtha soap, and a porcelain tub with silver trimmings, for you to make a start on her in the morning."

He glanced at the sleeping child, took Mark's hand and went quickly out of the tent. Under the sky he stood still for a few moments.

"The d—d scoundrel!" he muttered.

At that instant his alert ear heard what the sentry, posted some distance away, had failed to catch—the rustling of some moving figure in the dense jungle grass at the edge of the camp.

The major remained perfectly motionless, except for his right hand, which was swiftly withdrawing his revolver from its case. Suddenly he was transformed into action. He leaped between the two last tents of the line, to see a man confront him for an instant.

The sentry, shouting to the guard,

SENATOR McNARY KEEPS HIS WORD

Fulfills Every Pledge of Campaign and Should Be Re-elected.

"While a want of time precludes any elaboration of the various matters that may engage my endeavors," said Senator McNary at the time of his appointment to the Senatorship, "I shall advocate and enlist my efforts in behalf of National Equal Suffrage and National Prohibition, as each of these measures has been adopted by the people of the state which I am selected to represent."

"I shall cooperate immediately with any movement which has for its purpose the suppression of gambling and speculation in the necessities of life to the end that the consuming public shall pay a fair profit to the producer only."

On the same day, Oswald West said: "If the pledges he (Senator McNary) has made to the people are kept, and I am sure they will be, he will unquestionably be returned to the Senate at the next general election."

Senator McNary has kept his every pledge. He voted for submission of the National prohibition amendment to the Legislatures of the several states. He also voted for National Equal Suffrage and has introduced a bill fixing the prices of many essential commodities. Besides, he has a 100 per cent record for supporting the President's war program.

Senator McNary should be reelected for the increased service he will be able to render his state and nation.

NOTHING SHORT OF SACRILEGE

The Democratic candidate for Governor of this state has flaunted in the face of the public an advertisement and bid for votes that should and no doubt will be indignantly resented by patriotic citizens everywhere. It reads thus:

"Not till every grain of wheat had been harvested for the soldiers did Walter M. Pierce start to ask you for your votes as Democratic candidate for Governor," etc.

To anybody who knows the thrifty, lucre-gathering Walter Pierce, the hollow mockery of that expression appeals with the most disgusting effect.

They know that every grain of wheat in Walter's broad acres was harvested to bring that \$220 a bushel to Walter's bank account, and they cannot resist an angry feeling upon seeing this attempt to use the name of the noble boys at the front for the ignoble purpose of securing himself some votes.

Using their names in this way is nothing short of sacrilege.—Salem Statesman.

VOTERS HAVE A PATRIOTIC DUTY

It is the patriotic duty of every citizen to assist in the election of men who, by reason of their ability and experience, are not only best qualified to serve during the war, but who will also be able to assist in solving satisfactorily the many reconstruction problems with which this country will be confronted after the war. The records of Senator McNary and Representatives Hawley, Sinnott and McArthur and Governor Withycombe are all 100 per cent in their support of war activities. Their loyalty and patriotism are unquestioned. They are to be trusted to meet and solve every big problem the world war may develop. Their records entitle them to re-election.

came running up. The major and he searched the spot, but they found nobody.

"One of those d—d Cuban sneak-thieves!" muttered Major Howard as he replaced his revolver in its case. And he hurried away to look after his men.

(Continued next week.)

REPUBLICAN TICKET

General Election, November 5, 1918. Get Behind the Men Who Are Behind The Boys at the Front.

United States Senator (Short term)—Fred W. Mulkey, of Multnomah.

United States Senator (Long term)—Charles L. McNary, of Marion.

Representatives in Congress—First District—W. C. Hawley, of Marion. Second District—N. J. Sinnott, of Wasco. Third District—C. N. McArthur, of Multnomah.

Governor—James Withycombe, of Marion.

State Treasurer—O. P. Hoff, of Multnomah.

Justice of Supreme Court—Charles A. Johns, of Multnomah.

Attorney General—George M. Brown, of Douglas.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—J. A. Churchill, of Baker.

Labor Commissioner—C. H. Gram, of Multnomah.

Public Service Commissioner—Fred A. Williams, of Josephine.

Superintendent Water Division No. 1—Percy A. Cupper, of Marion.

Superintendent Water Division No. 2—George T. Cochran, of Union.

Why Make a Change at This Time?

UNCLE SAM'S ADVICE ON FLU

U. S. Public Health Service Issues Official Health Bulletin on Influenza.

LATEST WORD ON SUBJECT.

Epidemic Probably Not Spanish in Origin—Germ Still Unknown—People Should Guard Against "Droplet Infection"—Surgeon General Blue Makes Authoritative Statement.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—Although King Alfonso of Spain was one of the victims of the influenza epidemic in 1893 and again this summer, Spanish authorities repudiate any claim to influenza as a "Spanish" disease. If the people of this country do not take care the epidemic will become so widespread throughout the United States that soon we shall hear the disease called "American" influenza.

In response to a request for definite information concerning Spanish influenza, Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the U. S. Public Health Service has authorized the following official interview:

What is Spanish influenza? Is it something new? Does it come from Spain?

"The disease now occurring in this country and called 'Spanish influenza' resembles a very contagious kind of 'cold,' accompanied by fever, pains

Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases



As Dangerous as Poison Gas Shells

In the head, eyes, ears, back or other parts of the body and a feeling of severe sickness. In most of the cases the symptoms disappear after three or four days, the patient then rapidly recovering. Some of the patients, however, develop pneumonia, or inflammation of the ear, or meningitis, and many of these complicated cases die. Whether this so-called 'Spanish' influenza is identical with the epidemics of influenza of earlier years is not yet known.

Epidemics of influenza have visited this country since 1647. It is interesting to know that this first epidemic was brought here from Valencia, Spain. Since that time there have been numerous epidemics of the disease. In 1889 and 1890 an epidemic of influenza, starting somewhere in the Orient, spread first to Russia and thence over practically the entire civilized world. Three years later there was another flare-up of the disease. Both times the epidemic spread widely over the United States.

"Although the present epidemic is called 'Spanish influenza,' there is no reason to believe that it originated in Spain. Some writers who have studied the question believe that the epidemic came from the Orient and they call attention to the fact that the Germans mention the disease as occurring along the eastern front in the summer and fall of 1917."

How can "Spanish influenza" be recognized?

"There is as yet no certain way in which a single case of 'Spanish influenza' can be recognized. On the other hand, recognition is easy where there is a group of cases. In contrast to the outbreaks of ordinary coughs and colds, which usually occur in the cold months, epidemics of influenza may occur at any season of the year. Thus the present epidemic raged most intensely in Europe in May, June and July. Moreover, in the case of ordinary colds, the general symptoms (fever, pain, depression) are by no means as severe or as sudden in their onset as they are in influenza. Finally, ordinary colds do not spread through the community so rapidly or so extensively as does influenza.

"In most cases a person taken sick with influenza feels sick rather suddenly. He feels weak, has pains in the eyes, ears, head or back, and may be sore all over. Many patients feel dizzy, some vomit. Most of the patients complain of feeling chilly, and with this comes a fever in which the temperature rises to 100 to 104. In most cases the pulse remains relatively slow.

"In appearance one is struck by the fact that the patient looks sick. His eyes and the inner side of his eyelids may be slightly 'bloodshot,' or 'congested,' as the doctors say. There may be running from the nose, or there may be some cough. These signs of a cold may not be marked; nevertheless the patient looks and feels very sick.

"In addition to the appearance and the symptoms as already described examination of the patient's blood may aid the physician in recognizing 'Spanish influenza,' for it shows a

that in this disease the number of white corpuscles shows little or no increase above the normal. It is possible that the laboratory investigations now being made through the National Research Council and the United States Hygienic Laboratory will furnish a more certain way in which individual cases of this disease can be recognized."

What is the course of the disease? Do people die of it?

"Ordinarily, the fever lasts from three to four days and the patient recovers. But while the proportion of deaths in the present epidemic has generally been low, in some places the outbreak has been severe and deaths have been numerous. When death occurs it is usually the result of a complication."

What causes the disease and how is it spread?

"Bacteriologists who have studied influenza epidemics in the past have found in many of the cases a very small rod-shaped germ called, after its discoverer, Pfeiffer's bacillus. In other cases apparently the same kind of disease there were found pneumococci, the germs of lobar pneumonia. Still others have been caused by streptococci, and by others germs with long names.

"No matter what particular kind of germ causes the epidemic, it is now believed that influenza is always spread from person to person, the germs being carried with the air along with the very small droplets of mucus, expelled by coughing or sneezing, forceful talking, and the like by one who already has the germs of the disease. They may also be carried about in the air in the form of dust coming from dried mucus, from coughing and sneezing, or from careless people who spit on the floor and on the sidewalk. As in most other catching diseases, a person who has only a mild attack of the disease himself may give a very severe attack to others."

What should be done by those who catch the disease?

"It is very important that every person who becomes sick with influenza should go home at once and go to bed. This will help keep away dangerous complications and will, at the same time, keep the patient from scattering the disease far and wide. It is highly desirable that no one be allowed to sleep in the same room with the patient. In fact, no one but the nurse should be allowed in the room.

"If there is cough and sputum or running of the eyes and nose, care should be taken that all such discharges are collected on bits of gauze or rag or paper napkins and burned. If the patient complains of fever and headache, he should be given water to drink, a cold compress to the forehead and a light sponge. Only such medicine should be given as is prescribed by the doctor. It is foolish to ask the druggist to prescribe and may be dangerous to take the so-called 'safe, sure and harmless' remedies advertised by patent medicine manufacturers.

"If the patient is so situated that he can be attended only by some one who must also look after others in the family, it is advisable that such attendant wear a wrapper, apron or gown over the ordinary house clothes while in the sick room and slip this off when leaving to look after the others.

"Nurses and attendants will do well to guard against breathing in dangerous disease germs by wearing a simple fold of gauze or mask while near the patient."

Will a person who has had influenza before catch the disease again?

"It is well known that an attack of measles or scarlet fever or smallpox usually protects a person against another attack of the same disease. This appears not to be true of 'Spanish influenza.' According to newspaper reports the King of Spain suffered an attack of influenza during the epidemic thirty years ago, and was again stricken during the recent outbreak in Spain."

How can one guard against influenza?

"In guarding against disease of all kinds, it is important that the body be kept strong and able to fight off disease germs. This can be done by having a proper proportion of work, play and rest, by keeping the body well clothed, and by eating sufficient wholesome and properly selected food. In connection with diet, it is well to remember that milk is one of the best all-around foods obtainable for adults as well as children. So far as a disease like influenza is concerned, health authorities everywhere recognize the very close relation between its spread and overcrowded homes. While it is not always possible, especially in times like the present, to avoid such overcrowding, people should consider the health danger and make every effort to reduce the home overcrowding to a minimum. The value of fresh air through open windows cannot be over emphasized.

"When crowding is unavoidable, as in street cars, care should be taken to keep the face so turned as not to inhale directly the air breathed out by another person.

"It is especially important to beware of the person who coughs or sneezes without covering his mouth and nose. It also follows that one should keep out of crowds and stuffy places as much as possible, keep homes, offices and workshops well aired, spend some time out of doors each day, walk to work if at all practicable—in short, make every possible effort to breathe as much pure air as possible.

"In all health matters follow the advice of your doctor and obey the regulations of your local and state health authorities."

Legal blanks at The Sentinel office. Patronize home industry.



Stared at the Other in Amazement.

there were some papers—not the ones we wanted, but enough to identify him. It was Hampton all right."

He went to the tent door and looked out. "Here, Johnson!" he called.

The negro servant appeared almost instantaneously within the opening and stood to attention.

"Could you use three gold pieces, Johnson?" inquired Major Howard.

"Well, sah, I don't know as I'd object," replied the negro, grinning.

"It's part of a sum that was paid to an American soldier for betraying his country."

"Oh, Lord, no, Major!" answered Johnson.

"Then do what you think best with these."

The negro looked at the gold coins in his hand, stepped outside the tent and swung his arm. The pieces fell in the jungle grass far beyond the encampment. Major Howard shielded the purse after them and went back to



The Major Could Not Distinguish How the Intruder Was Dressed.

stant. In the light of the quarter-moon the major could not distinguish how the intruder was dressed. It was evident, however, that he had been prowling outside the tent which held Wallace and the child.

"Halt!" shouted the major and the sentry together, and as the man dropped into the grass, the rifle and revolver rang out simultaneously.

The sentry, shouting to the guard,