

**AWAITING THE
ELECTRIC CHAIR**

A boy of 21 sat in the death cell, awaiting execution for murder, convicted on circumstantial evidence.

A former hoodlum and member of a gang, when caught in the near vicinity of the crime, he was the logical suspect, and falling funds, lacking friends and money, together with false evidence, sent him to prison to await the electric chair.

One day a section of a women's magazine came into his hands. There was a department devoted to the needs and problems of the men in the service and their families. The idea of the personal service suggested all through it, appealed strongly to him and he wrote to the woman editor, asking, not for help or sympathy, but for reading matter with which to while away the six remaining weeks of life. He told her nothing of his trouble, but only of his one good friend who had visited him and was doing everything possible in his behalf.

Being a real woman with boys of her own, she sent a bundle of books and magazines and asked to have his story. Furthermore she wrote to the warden of the prison and to the boy's Salvation Army friend. From these two men came the story of the hasty trial, its details and conviction. The two men who had tried to help the boy, the lawyer who had volunteered to defend him had died before the trial was completed, and his colleague sent away to Europe on a special government mission, and was not on hand to put forth the effort for a new trial.

Before any progress toward a new trial could be made the evidence relating to the case had to be printed. The cost of this was \$75, and nowhere had this boy and friends to produce such a sum. A bed-ridden mother, a widowed sister with two small children could hardly keep themselves, let alone help him.

When the Editor, Woman received this letter from the Salvation Army men, she promptly lent the \$75 from her own slender resources, with the instruction to get evidence quickly. They began to struggle to get someone of sufficient importance to move legal wheels to re-open the case. When all appeals to officials, the ministry and other agencies failed, attended by the time-worn phrase, "Let the law take its course," this determined woman resolved to appeal to another woman. A telegram was sent to the wife of the editor of one of the greatest cosmopolitan newspapers in the Boys' Home city with the plea that the case be reopened, to establish the possible innocence of a boy charged with murder.

This brought results—for the newspaper took up the case, reprinted all of the evidence, brought to light several points in the boy's favor overlooked before. The case was reopened and in a very few days on the strength of the new evidence thus developed, the boy was released and the identity of the real murderer was discovered. Thus through the patient, kindly visitation of the Salvation Army Prison Worker, who had exhausted every resource within his power to get interest aroused in a case which he believed deserving of investigation, machinery was set in motion which gave back to society a youth of 21 whose two years of a confinement under the death shadow had made of him a serious, Christian citizen, and prevented a miscarriage of justice.

GO TO THE RESCUE

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The above statement was given August 9, 1916 and on December 4, 1920, Mrs. Hesson added "The cure Doan's Kidney Pills made for me has been a lasting one. I am always glad to recommend them."

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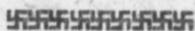
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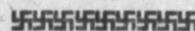
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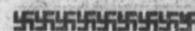
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