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A SUGAR ROMANCE

By AGNES G. BROGAN. (Copyright, 1918, Western Newspaper Union.)

Bruce Lynden came out to his sister's country home, to bid her farewell. He had been called to his country's colors and must leave soon for training camp.

Jane was glad to find that the serious anticipated departure, had not affected her brother's gay spirits. It was the same merry-hearted Bruce who sang gay songs to his own accompaniment. Jane's first suggestion of a young folk's party in his honor, had been discouraged; that was before the chance meeting with Sheila.

The charming little Irish girl had happened in at the post office as Jane and Bruce were leaving, and in the natural order of things, had walked with them to their door.

"Jove!" he remarked as his sister's young neighbor passed on her way. "What makes her so delightfully-different?"

"Because she is different, perhaps," Jane replied. "Comes from a broken home across the water, to live with her dominating grandmother."

"Bruce Lynden," she said slowly, "I do believe you have fallen in love." "Believe" that youth answered solemnly, "I know—I have."

"And I could not persuade you to look at a girl heretofore." "I'll look at this one quick enough," he responded, "if you will give me half a chance. Better have that party and ask her over."

"I doubt if she would be allowed to come," Jane said. Sheila's voice over the 'phone came to Bruce as he bent his listening head above his sister's. "I cannot promise to come," the girl answered the invitation, "but will let you know later."

Jane put down the receiver impatiently. "It's always that way," she said. "She'll have to depend until the last moment on her grandmother's humor."

Instantly Bruce became a rescuing knight. "I'd like to carry her off under the old woman's nose," he declared. His sister laughed, but her eyes were tender, as she caressed the soldier's hair. She was so anxious at this time to give him every pleasure. And if he fancied himself in love with Sheila—well, who could be more worthy of love than that faithful girl?

Bruce was thoughtful as he passed through the dining room upon the following morning, then turned back to answer the telephone call. His heart gave a leap at the soft-toned voice; its message was direct, yet perplexing. "Good morning," said Sheila. "Can you please send some sugar over to Mrs. Robson? Ever so little would be appreciated. I know you were obliged to refuse us yesterday, Mr. Schmidt, but grandmother—" the girl laughed, "want't be happy 'till she gets it."

It was evident that the operator had made a wrong connection. Bruce thought fast. The girl's acceptance of his sister's invitation depended on her grandmother's humor, and "grandma would not be happy until she had sugar."

Upon the buffet near at hand reposed three small well-filled bowls. "All right," he answered, "I will bring you some in a few minutes."

Anne, the maid, stared at his request for a bag, but gave it, and when she had gone, Bruce promptly emptied into it the contents of two sugar bowls. A lad upon the street agreed to deliver the package and Bruce went hopefully upon his morning stroll. Returning later he found his sister telephoning excitedly.

"I have called up both grocers," she was saying, "and cannot get a bit. Oh! these war times! And how my own sugar disappeared, is a mystery. There were the bowls all filled for this evening's party—the smallest alone remains, and Anne knows nothing about it. Oh! if you could, dear, I'd be so grateful."

After luncheon Bruce fled guiltily to the sitting room. Here in unremorseful silence he smoked and smiled into the fire. His reverie was interrupted by the sight of a girlish figure ascending the porch steps.

Before the startled caller had time to press the bell he had thrown wide the door. "Come in," he eagerly invited.

But Sheila hesitated. "I came to bring some sugar to your sister," she explained; "we have more than we need at present. Will you give it to her, please? I am on my way to pay Mr. Schmidt for his accommodation."

Breathlessly Bruce grabbed the bag. "Wait a minute," he begged. "I'd like to walk with you."

"As he joined the girl on the snow-bordered path he decided that prompt confession was inevitable—this visit to the Schmidt person complicated matters. "As to that sugar," he began. "Yes?" queried Miss Sheila.

"I filled the order this morning," he added abruptly. "You called our house by mistake for the grocer's. That was Jane's sugar—ready for the party."

The girl tilted her pretty chin and looked up at him, then her quick laughter rang out. "It was to appease your grandmother," he explained, "so that you might come to my farewell party."

"Farewell?" asked Sheila. Her eyes shone softly. "I promised grandmother that I would not." Then suddenly she smiled at him. "Nothing was said against an afternoon walk," suggested Sheila. And they went on together down a glorified shining pathway.

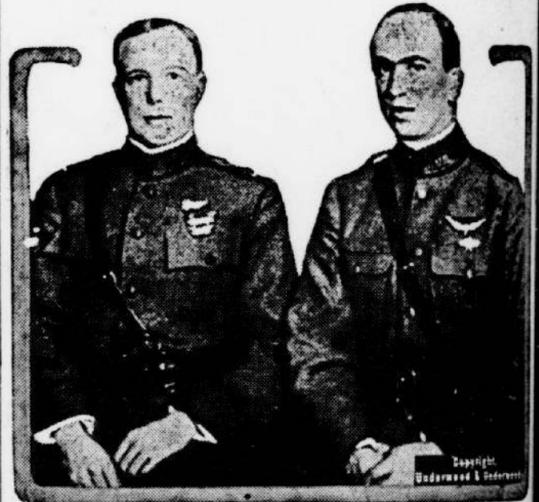
Where To Stop In New Orleans

Table with columns: NAME, Address, Rates, Description. Includes Henrietta Hotel, Schwertz ROOMING HOUSE, McEvoy's Hotel, Larroque House, The Albert House, Fred Buerkle's House, Plaza Hotel.

AUTOMOBILE DIRECTORY

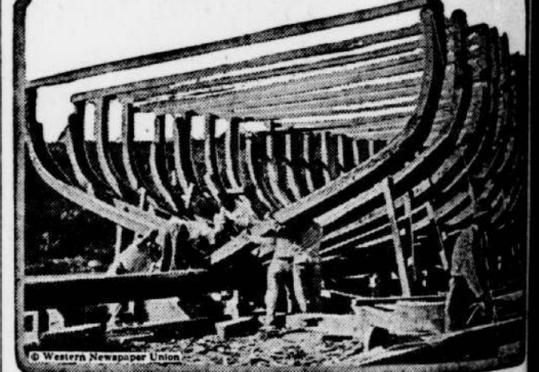
Table with columns: Name of Car, Distributor, Address. Includes Chalmers, Franklin, Cole 8, Allen, Buick, Stearns, Elgins, Mitchell.

AMERICAN AVIATORS GET GOLD EAGLES



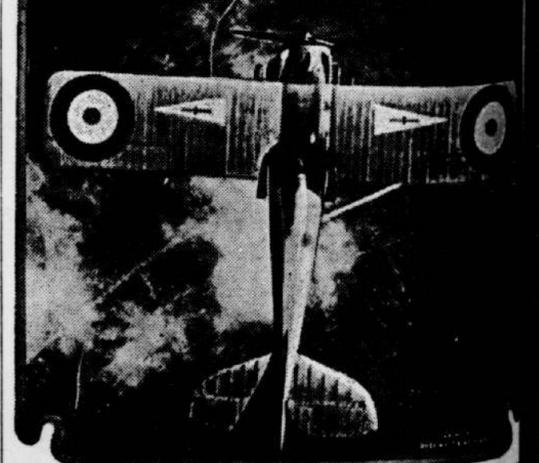
These two American officers had just been decorated with gold eagles at the Aero club of Paris when the photograph was taken. They are aviators General Pershing's force.

CUBAN SHIPBUILDERS AID IN WAR WORK



The shipyards of Cuba have been scenes of much activity since they entered the war. The construction of wooden ships, so as to release steel ships for war requirements, is going on without delay. The photograph shows one of the wooden ships under construction.

FRENCH CHASER PLANE AFTER THE BOCKE



This remarkable photograph of a French chaser plane hunting the Bocke at full speed high above the clouds is one of the wonder pictures of the war. The chaser plane was flying at an altitude of 3,000 meters, while the pilot flying above made the photograph. Though small clouds were visible under the chaser plane, the roads, fields and woods below are clearly visible.