AIDS FRIENDLESS VISITORS TO CITY

YOUNG WOMAN ASSISTS 1500 PERSONS IN YEAR

Helpless and Homesick Travelers Are Helped and Young Girls Are Protected by Y. W. C. A. Aides at Depots

Very few people see the world in its heart-melting, pitiful phases as does Miss Minnie Steele, the Traveler's Aid guard of the Young Women's Christian association of this city.

For four years she has been filling that assignment, primarily to protect young girls who come to the city friendless, moneyless and in a general way helpless, and in danger of falling under evil influences. But her work has broadened out till she acts as a Good Samaritan to persons of all ages and of both sexes.

In the year ending last May she personally protected 1500 persons. Miss Lulu Pratt, who holds a similar appointment, gives most of her time to the Santa Fe station, while Miss Steele is at the Arcade depot.

They meet the principal trains and look after the welfare of the many persons who have come under their care in course of their supervision.

"Yes, we see many interesting phases of human life here," said Miss Steele yesterday, in reply to an inquiry, "Some of them would melt the heart of almost any one.

"Persons come here who have never traveled and find themselves in a strange place without knowing what to do. Often young girls arrive with scarcely a cent in their pockets and very 'blue' and discouraged. Boys come in the same way. The most needy, of course, are those who arrive sick and disabled."

"Of the many cases coming under your direction what ones impressed you as being inspired with the most human interest?"

Lonely and Sick

"There are so many it is hard to say which were the most impressive. There is one case of a little Scotch boy, weak and slight, who came off the train with a big grip almost as heavy as he was. He had come from Manitoba alone.

"The doctor had told him he could not live unless he came here, and he was suffering with a hemorrhage on arriving. We have a place near the station where we take girls for a short time who need a temporary home, but we seldom take boys there. We made an exception in the case of this little fellow.

"Although sick, really an invalid, he soon got out and bravely did any work he could find to do, regardless of what it was. What he did not require for his living he saved.

"Several times he has been compelled to give up for a time, but when he improves he gets right out and is busy again. In this way we have kept him for about a year. Several time we have believed he was about to die.

"One instance was recently, in which the doctor thought he could not recover. The frail little fellow made his will, verbally, and it showed the spirit of the boy. He said: 'You and the doctor have been so good to me I want you to not spend more than $10 of the money I have saved up, just as little as you can, for my coffin, and then I want you and the doctor, who has attended me without charge, to divide the balance between you.' He was so grateful," said Miss Steele.

"Another experience that impressed me very much," continued Miss Steele, "was that of a young woman who came from the east to be married.

"The young man of her choice had written her that he had been very sick, but was improved, had a nice little home furnished and would meet her at the station.

"She stepped off the cars expecting to meet a happy lover, and was prostrated to find out that he had died while she was on the road.

"Yes, she was terribly shocked, raved for several days and we feared she might not sustain the shock. She is still living in this, for her a city of sorrow, where she expected a haven of joy. Fortunately she had some means of her own and is not in want.

"Another unusual experience was that of a little girl who came in from Arizona expecting to meet her mother, but the mother had moved three or four times and could not be found for several months. Meanwhile we cared for the child.

Young Women Seeking Work

"We have many varieties of experiences with young women coming here for work," explained Miss Steele. "One case will illustrate. As often happens, young women arrive who expect to have time to look around after the train gets in, but as is frequently the case the train was late one day and a young woman got off the cars with 15 cents in her pocket and nowhere to go.

"When I inquired why she was looking so disconsolate she broke down and cried, saying she must work before she could eat or sleep. She was very grateful to learn that she could have a good meal and a place to rest till she could find work.

"We never give money, merely orders on some restaurant and room free for a short time. This young woman is now an active member of the Young Women's Christian association."

"I suppose you have a system of keeping track of the many young people you assist?"

"Yes, that work takes up a large part of my time. They keep coming back to me, either for new places or to report in some way—often to express gratitude—and I continue to guide and direct them until they are permanently placed.

"There is a self-supporting organization of young women in the Y. W. C. A. which provided for 263 young women last year, besides those I have been looking after."

"You have many experiences with children, I suppose?"

Story of One Little Boy

"Often. Not long ago a little boy, who had come from Philadelphia for his health, came to me without a penny. He was sick, in fact not able to be out of bed. He had been supporting himself by his work, had written his father he was doing pretty well, and the father had replied that as he was not needing money none would be sent him for six months.

"We looked after him until we could write the boy's father. He promptly telegraphed $100 and directed the child to come home. The boy was sent at once and died in three days after reaching home. His mother writes me regularly as a token of her gratitude.

"When I see sick children so bravely trying to support themselves I feel ashamed for the many ablebodied people who are so feeble in their efforts, or will not try at all," concluded Miss Steele, with a flash of the eye and tone of indignant remonstrance.

MISS HALE REJOICES IN FREEDOM GRANTED BY THE COURT

Miss Frances Hale

TRAFFIC AGENTS LEAVE ON A TRIP TO CANYON

LOCAL RAILROAD MEN ARE GUESTS OF SANTA FE

Large Party From Los Angeles Met by a Big Delegation From San Francisco at Barstow—Personnel of the Party

An excursion of the traffic agents of the various railroads doing business in Los Angeles to the Grand Canyon, left Los Angeles yesterday morning at 7:30 o'clock. The members of the party were the guests of the Santa Fe and were in charge of E. W. McGee, city passenger and ticket agent of the Santa Fe. Two sleeping cars and an observation coach were occupied by the party, which was joined at Barstow by three Pullmans loaded with sixty traffic men from San Francisco, under the charge of H. K. Gregory, acting general passenger agent of the Santa Fe. Monday the party will spend at the new El Tovar hotel and in looking over the canyon. The Los Angeles members are expected back next Wednesday morning.

The personnel of the party is as follows: Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Martin, Southern Pacific; Charles H. Phillips, El Paso & Southwestern; E. W. McGee, Santa Fe; G. F. Herr, Union Pacific; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. McCormick, Union Pacific; M. R. Penfield, wife and sister, Salt Lake route; Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Sproule, Southern Pacific; H. A. Belcher and mother, Southern Pacific; Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Yerrington, Southern Pacific; E. V. Messelwhite, Colorado Midland; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Fessenden, Rock Island; J. T. Saunders and mother, Southern Pacific; Mr. and Mrs. U. A. Hubert, Observation Car Co.; Mrs. W. E. Erwin, Miss Fraser, W. H. Bullen, Grand Trunk system; S. F. Butler and wife, Grand Trunk; C. H. Eaton, mother and sister, Burlington lines; W. N. Nelson, Judson Excursion lines; William Rosemann, Rock Island; F. L. Miller, Rock Island; Mr. and Mrs. Bingham, Gould lines; R. A. Thielen, Southern Pacific all from Los Angeles. Besides those from this city there were J. S. Brown, Southern Pacific, and C. C. Jewett, Salt Lake route, from San Diego; L. B. Valla, Southern Pacific, Redlands.

POKER PLAYERS IN DEFAULT

Prominent Citizens Arrested in Raid Fail to Appear in Court and Warrants Are Issued

The prominent business men of Los Angeles who were arrested in the raid made by Capt. Auble Friday night upon a poker game in the rear room of A. Goldbaum's cigar store, 219 West Fourth street, did not appear in Judge Austin's court yesterday morning and warrants have been issued for their arrest.

They were released Friday night on $25 cash bail each. Although their identity is known to Chief Auble, the men were booked under assumed names and their identity has not been made public.

H. Goldstein, who is said to be the dealer of the game, furnished $100 bail for himself and the bail money for the players.

BRICK WALL FALLS ON MEN

Two Negro Laborers Are Slightly Injured in Accident, Narrowly Escaping Death

While a brick wall at the rear of H. F. Vollmer & Co.'s store, 513 South Broadway, was being torn away yesterday morning it collapsed and a portion of it fell upon Glasgow Dii and Julius Maxwell, negro laborers, who had been removing the bricks.

Maxwell escaped with a bruised hand, but Dii sustained a sprained wrist and his back was severely bruised and strained.

They were removed to the receiving hospital. Dii lives on New High street and Maxwell lives on Santa Fe avenue.

CHINESE CEASES HIS WANDERINGS

WONG TING SON TO RETURN TO CHINA

Accumulated Two Fortunes While in America, Losing One, Afterwards Regaining Funds by Playing Fan Tan

After years of wandering in a foreign country, thousands of miles from the familiar haunts of his boyhood days, Wong Ting Son, one of the pioneers of the Los Angeles Chinatown, has saved the necessary thousand-dollar furtune and next week will bid goodby to his friends and countrymen in America and leave for China, there to spend the remainder of his days in the paddy fields of his old home.

Wong came to America many years ago. He arrived when the Chinatown at San Francisco was in its incipiency. Prosperity was a slow process for Wong in the northern city. There were many highbinders there and Wong did not care to pay indemnity.

He wandered east, across the great desert, cooking for miners and working around wagon trains, and at last arrived with his friends in St. Louis.

In Hop Alley, Wong was a great man. With him came news from China and he was feted and given apartments with the best of his countrymen.

But life in St. Louis was not what Wong desired. Down in his heart, in spite of his plebeian rearing, Wong cherished the instincts of the adventurer. When he was but a tiny youngster, just aspiring to the academy button, Wong ran away from his home in the Shanghai province and started toward the coast.

For seven weeks the wanderer enjoyed royal favor. As a reward for a trival service he was allowed to work on the royal road as master of pebbles, and Wong thought of this and wanted to return to the orient.

Wong returned to Los Angeles. For years the little yellow man has been a familiar figure to tourists and visitors to the Los Angeles Chinese district, and many will miss the cheerful old Celestial.

Five years ago Wong had saved nearly $800. "I will return to China with the coming New Year," he announced to his friends. "I go to see my most imperial female parent," he added modestly and his friends nodded and understood.

One week before the date set for Wong's departure, the old man received a note. He was able to read the characters of his race, and he said nothing.

Mother Dies

One hundred dollars of the carefully hoarded money went to the Buddhist priest on Apablaza street, and hundreds of little red candles and punk sticks were sent out to be burned before the tiny altars at sunset as masses for the repose of the soul of Wong's mother. The aged mother died on the eve of her son's return, and Wong was inconsolable.

His grief lasted the required seven days and then the famished son came from his hut and announced his intention of playing "big game."

Night after night he sat at the fan tan tables, his eyes fixed lusterlessly on the bright ivory buttons and his hands clutching his money. Every cent went to the dealer and Wong became a beggar.

His one companion was a dog, a mangey little yellow cur, and with the pup for a companion Wong started out to regain his fortune. Luck was with him and Wong prospered.

Once a week, the wanderer allowed himself the privilege of a "hop smoke," and this he shared with the dog. On these occasions the animal would curl himself up on the Chinese breast and inhale the fumes until unconscious.

The dog died six months ago a confirmed hop fiend, and Wong, deprived of his last friend, announced his intention of going back to China.

He has accumulated $950 by careful gambling and close speculation, and his desire to spend the last years of his life in the flowery kingdom will be gratified.

His Sensitive Point

Leader of School of Little Fishes—Come on, fellers, let's go and jolly the old octopus.

New Little Fish—That'll be fun. How do you do it?

"Oh, we all get round hm and point our fins at him and yell 'Trust!' It makes him crazy."—Smart Set.

FREES MISS HALE ON TECHNICALITY

YOUNG WOMAN GIVEN LIBERTY ON DEMURRER

Judge Smith Sustains Plea of Insufficiency of Indictment and Proceedings Are Abruptly Terminated

"I am free at last and goodness knows I am glad of it," said Miss Frances Hale yesterday morning as, with a sigh of relief and a smile for Judge Smith, she tripped out of department one of the superior court and went to the sheriff's office to secure some of her personal belongings and to tell Under Sheriff Yonkin "I told you so."

Miss Hale's case has been one of the most remarkable in the history of Los Angeles courts. Several months ago she came to Los Angeles to solicit subscriptions for an entertainment to be given for the Door of Hope society.

Miss Hale was young and remarkably handsome,. She was a former actress and to her the subscription business was one great play, with Miss Frances Hale as leading lady and the merchants as supers.

But all good plays have a "real mean man" in them, and Secretary Zeehandelaar of the Merchants and Manufacturers' association, according to Miss Hale, filled that position with ability.

The Door of Hope charged Miss Hale with having taken more than her share of the receipts and from advance subscriptions, and Zeehandelaar, representing the indignant merchants, applied for a warrant against Miss Hale.

The warrant was refused and Miss Hale went to San Francisco. She was under the surveillance of Pinkerton detectives in San Francisco, and upon a report from Los Angeles that an indictment had been returned by the grand jury against her, charging embezzlement, the officers attempted to arrest her.

She escaped in a small boat to a north bound coast vessel. At Portland she was arrested and Deputy Sheriff Gilbert was sent to Portland at great expense to return the fair captive.

Following Miss Hale's arrival here, she was released on bail and then arose a squabble in the superior court as to which department she should be tried in.

Sustains Demurrer

While this technicality was being settled among the judges, Attorney Le Compte Davis, representing the woman, filed a demurrer to the complaint, stating that the instrument was insufficient. The demurrer was sustained and Miss Hale was released.

The court room was crowded yesterday when the woman appeared for trial, and the spectators stared when the accused entered and seated herself behind the attorney's railing.

Instead of a worried and haggard woman, Miss Hale had the appearance of a society matron out for a day at the seaside. She wore a lace gauze waist of the "peek-a-boo" variety, an immaculate skirt, white shoes and an immense white picture hat with blue ostrich plumes. A broad belt of pompadour silk completed the natty costume, and the women spectators stared.

When the decision was rendered by Judge Smith, Miss Hale thanked the court and left. On the street, she stopped to talk to Under Sheriff Yonkin and to shield her face from the sun she raised a delicate Japanese umbrella which she carried.

"Well, I knew I would be free, anyhow," said Miss Hale. "If the case had been allowed to go to a jury the result would have been the same, but this was a quicker ending of the case, and as it saved time, I am satisfied.

"I haven't found yet where the Door of Hope people had any kick coming. They got all that was coming to them."

The indictment against Miss Hale is the third warrant issued by the grand jury which has been held insufficient.

Not That Kind

Mrs. Cafferty—Oi wud loike t' git a pair o' shoes fer me bye, sor.

Clerk—Yes, madam, French kid?

Mrs. Cafferty—No, begorra, Irish.—New York Times.