

In the early morning the crowds of the room, He did not look up until which spent most of the night at the bulletin-board were gathering again. At no time had the place been entires idewise inquiringly. been out of eyeshot of the bulletins. One of them, a shock-headed youth in overalls and wearing the cap of a government electrician, sat on the stone curbing by the entrance to the power station, smoking a small black pine seemingly more occupied with pipe, seemingly more occupied with meditation than observation.

Most of the men who were now gathering about the board, were coal miners on their way to the shafts. Here and there were electricians. The vastness of the power station from which they had come, was no more than suggested from where the crowd stood, the buildings being partially hid in a grove of

The groups of miners and electricians were almost silent. They seemed to have exhausted comment and surmise, and to be waiting for the tangible to take place of conjecture.

On the Verge of War.

In Washington the federal news editor apparently had worn out himself and his staff in keeping up a detailed account of the all-night session of Congress. As daylight came, the service wabbled, and what had been a connected, well-sustained story of congressional proceedings had slumped to a series of jerky bulletins of which the last had come a half-hour before, read-

Williams still has the floor. He is making no headway against the majority. War seems inevitable."

ity. War seems inevitable."

To the men starting for the shafts, this carried no news which they had no known before they had gone away, a few hours earlier, to get such sleep and rest as they could. While they stood watching, another bulletin came:

"Congress has taken an hour's re

this, and then started for work. Soon "You have a chance. It is too great there were left only a few scattered a chance to lose. It might be our sal-

Young Inventor Busy. "Mr. Shod," said the younger man, I want a two weeks' leave of absence The elder then looked squarely at him but did not reply, merely brushing back his hair in an abstracted, pre-occupied manner. The young man, waited for an answer without repeating

"Curtis had been located," said the aide. "He is at Kiel. We got his signal followed by some code which is being transcribed."

Another aide came in.

"Curtis says he is effectually hidden."

s he added sharply:
"Atsins, you make me think your crazy. Haven't you read the bulletins? Look here—a message from the chief, from the instant war is declared.'
Leave of absence! Man, go back to
work."

Atsins became confused and awk wardly abashed; but he persisted nevertheless, urging great necessity. "If you even ask again," cried Shod, becoming thoroughly angry, "I'll have

you locked up for attempting deser Daring Plan Explained.

He wheeled around in his chair, and usied himself with the wires leading off the keyboard on his desk. Atsins hesitated an instant, and then suddenly lost his awkwardness and became alert. He bent over his senior, speaking rapidly, energetically, and sharply. He drew rom the inner pocket of his blouse a print, spreading it before Shod. The anger of the older man gave way to astonishment. He was held spellbound by the younger's vehement explanation, until finally Atsins ceased talking, folded up his print, returned it to his pocket, and stood waiting.

The coal miners in the crowd read this, and then started for work. Soon "You have a chance. It is too Shod contemplated him silently for

one appreciated so thoroughly the im-pending danger as did Montrus, the un-ortunate commander-in-chief of the small military forces. Commander in Despair.

He had been dean of the Department young man.

of electricity in the national univer-sity, when transferred to the military service, having, prior to this been an instructor in one of the national military schools. In appearance he was scholastic, his figure spare and bent, his hair and eyes gray, and his face hin-jowled.

He was alone in his office, looking

out of the window across the Potomac—the only inactive figure in the War Department-when one of his aides en-

ake them."
"Where is he?" asked Montrus eager

"We have, but he warns us not to try often. I suppose his position is precarious at best."

"Tell him to send what he can," answered Montrus. "I'll go into the tower to take it."

her, Montrus stood at the railing looking out over the peaceful river scene and drumming his fingers on the wood en bars. en bars.
"I think it is coming," said one of

the hood which shut all light from the eyes looking at the reflector.

Looking Across the Ocean.

inky darkness. Then came little waves of dim light which rippled across its surface. These ripples became stronger; indistinct shapes, unrecognizable open-air surroundings, is healthful and and mystic, seemed to rise out of its exhilerating, while the constant stream depths. They cleared away, and there of passengers and tourists, both old and grew up in their place the forms of a new, tends to the formation of pleasant revealed in stitute to the stood revealed in stitute outlines for a moment and tien seemed to drop further and further down into the reflector.

White, fleecy clouds came between

Aerial Torpedo Boats.

Montrus almost held his breath as he ran his eyes over them. For ten min-utes he studied. Then he drew the ood from his head, and looked out over the river scene again.

"A hundred, I should say," he remarked at last, quietly, but in great bitterness. "Every one twenty-four hours from the time those awful fools in Congress declare war, those hundred torpedo ships will be here. Tell Curtis we've seen enough." With that he went back to his office, and in moodiness took his post by the and in moodiness took his post by the county should not be they aides came in again.

he announced, "and insists on you. We have done everything seeing you. to get rid of him but throw him off the

The man stopped and waited expec antly.

"Tell him-" said Montrus angrily, but stopped. "Let him in," he concluded, sullenly.

Young Inventor to the Rescue.

The aide went out and came back with the shock-headed electrician who had spent the night before by the bulletin-board. His embarrassment was great, but his earnestness equalled it. The former showed in his awkward tin-board. posture and twitching fingers; the lat-ter, in the direct look with which he sought the general's eyes.
"Well," exclaimed Montrus, sharply.

"I have a concentrator—I want you to look at it—I thought—," he began excitedly, but ended brokenly in the face of a cold stare from Montrus.
"Here it is," he concluded, unfolding the prints. Montrus cast one careless and

second interested glance at the plans. He drew up a chair and studied them,

said. "Some other time—, if there's anything left of this country, some other time I'll look at them. But not now. I can't now."

Death to Distant Fleet.

"But you don't understand," exclaimed Atsins, quickly and vehemently. "Now's the time, don't you see? That will direct a million volts—two

their moorings if it works?" he drawing in his breath sharply. drawing in his breath sharply. The two men looked at each other, and, as Montrus stared, he saw also in his mental vision those hundred dark shanes on the face of the reflector.

Then he pressed a series of buttons on his desk, and men entered from different doors.

an idea

itself no thought of the inevitable product of incompetence urged into action by rashness.

In all this unprepared country, no one appreciated so thoroughly the im-

The men started to obey, and Atsins to follow his guides, when Montrus stepped to him, holding out his hands. "I hope you succeed," he said. "I—I can't fail," stammered the

(To be continued.) ACTIVE NORWEGIAN WOMEN. TO BOYS

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Peoples Popular Monthly,

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your Washing Free.

shed at one time with this 1900 "Grav A child can do this in six to twenty m

rity.

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hours as you can wash by hand in EIGHT
you send it back to the railway station.—

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But, if, from a month's actual use, you are convinced its aves HALF the time in washing, does the work better, and does it twice as easily as it could be done by hand, you keep the machine.

Then you mail us 50 cents is part of what the machine saves you every week on your own, or on a washer-woman's labor. We intend that the 1908 "Gravity" Washes shall pay for itself and thus cost you nothing.

You don't pik a cent from first to last, and you don't buy it until you have had a full month's trial.

We have sold approaching half a million "1909" Washers on a month's free trial and the only strouble we've half has been to keep up with our creers.

Could we afford to pay freight on thousands of these machines every month, if we did not positively

An unseen power, called Gravity, helps run this

Occupy Good Positions as Stewards on Coasting Steamers.

Bright young women in Norway find a rational and congenial employment in a vocation which has not been invaded by their sex in this country. The many steamers that plow the Norwegian fjords and Scandinavian estuaries and rivers employ young women to and rivers employ young women to see to the commisarat and to arrange for the personal comfort of travelers on board. Their official designation is that of "auxiliary ship's officer." That their occupation is a pleasant one is proved by the numerous applications at steamboat offices from young Danish, Swedish and Norwegian ladies anxious to secure such positions. This life on the inland lakes and rivers, is stated in fact to be immensely popu-Scouting the Upper Air.

"He says he is out of the path of their scouts, and thinks he is safely posted. He must be above them."

"Can you reach him?"

"On you reach him?" daughters of either naval or professional men, such as lawyers and

It is the duty of the "auxiliary ship's A hundred yards farther us the Potomac, stood a gigantic tower, the exact longitude and latitude of which was burned in the memory of every operative in the secret service. To this, Montus and his aides hastened, being carried directly to the summit by a lift. While the aides adjusted the films while the aides adjusted the films alectro-photograsess business ability in her selection of the aides finally; and the general stepped over to adjust about his head nets the profits over and above the act ual expenses, and beyond this may de-rend upon complimentary contributions At first this remained in black and tomary thing, may be offered and ac-

acquaintances, at all seasons of travel

Another post filled by women on board the Norwegian mail steamers is that of "postal official." Two of these young ladies always travel together, the eye and the city's roofs, the latter growing less and less distinct. the mail bags to and from the points Gravity, you know, is what makes a stone roll down hill and has just been invented and we call it the "1900" Gravity Wesher.

There are slais on the inside bottom of the tub. There are slais on the inside bottom of the tub. There so slat act as paddles, to swin githe water in the same direction you revolve the tub.

You throw the solid clothes into the tub first. Then you throw enough water over the clothes to fine them. The cover has slaid on its lower side to grip the clothes and hold them from turning around when the tub turns.

Now we are all ready for quick and easy washing. You grasp the upright handle on the side of the tub and, withit, you revolve the tub one-third way round, then gravity pulls it the other way round.

The machine must have a little help from you, at washer requires of you. A child can run it easily full of clothes.

When you revolve the tub the clothes don't move. But the water moves like a mili race through the clothes.

The paddles on the tub bottom drive the soapy There was a sweep of a dark object of embarkation and arrival. During athwart the clouds. It crossed the entry the voyage, the time of these girls is There was a sweep of a dark object of embarkation and arrival. During athwart the clouds. It crossed the entire reflector, blotting it out in blackness again, but light followed almost ally may be seen employing it in proinstantly. Again nothing but the white clouds, but finally a far-off flock of specks, which came nearer and nearer embroderies to be met with in such intil they stood out each distinctly and rich profusion throughout the Scandin separately, clear-cut in outline and avian lands. These "post ladies," how dentity. There they stood. work to jeopardize their official position as government employes; for long before the landing-stage is reached both may be seen cloaked and hatted standing, as it were, at attention. By reason of the precious burdens they bear, they are the first to leave the

outdone by the jewelers, and that they "A government electrician is out have worked hard to produce the best possible growths this winter with

ONLY ONE OF IT'S KIND.



which to stock the cellar of the future Mrs. Longworth. Huge potatoes were -two also sent from South Dakota, where disthey raise potatoes which are said to be million volts—accurately, to any distance, at any object. Man, if it works, if it will do it—don't you see?" they raise potatoes which are said to be so large that one potato will feed six persons. Pumpkins came likewise from Montrus stared at the shock-headed South Dakota, each large enough to fur. boy in a daze.

Atsins held himself in check and If the Longworth couple do not live on the fat of the land for at least one seather than the fault of the ad-"Will the ships at Kiel ever leave son, it has not been the fault of the admiring farmers.

Hard to Believe.

Montrus stared, he saw also in his mental vision those hundred dark thanes on the face of the reflector.

Then he pressed a series of buttons on his desk, and men entered from lifferent doors.

"Take this young man. Mr. — ?"

"Not a name," said Atsins. "Just an idea."

"Take this idea," continued Montrus, idea," "Quit yer kiddin," retorted the countryman. "Why, it's only 1906 now."

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We don't want you to take our word for this.

scanty partings, all diseases of the scalp, atophair failing and restore gray and faded hair teits original color.

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It makes not the slightest difference to us how long you have had your trouble. We will go to the loots of it and cure it.

Think just for a moment what this means! Think what it promises for those who have lost or who are leesing, the glorious tresses of youth! We will restore your hair, make it long and strong, make it as you wish it to be, and give you more satisfaction than you have ever before experienced. Do not be disheartened because you have used other hair remedies without results. Pe just to yourself and to us Our rem edy will make you happy. What it has done for others it will do for you.

We ask you in all kindness to write to us and we will send you by return mail, at our own expense, a full trial treatment of the Greatest Hair Grower on earth. We will also send you our interesting booklet of advice and hundreds of testimonials from delighted patients, giving their experiences for the benefit of others who have become discouraged. You will never regret answering this announcement, for it means much to you, more than you can imagine. If you want beautiful hair, if your F ir is getting so that you look aged or your personal appearance is disparaged, write to us for help. We are an Incorporated Company, not a private concern. We want you and your friends to know what we can do, and how we do it. Send to-day, and do not put it off. You will be delighted with what we send you, and it costs you nothing. Address in full, enclosing &c. samp for reply, LORRIMER washing machine.

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HE WAS HELD SPELLBOUND BY THE VEHEMENT EXPLANATION

groups; but the shock-headed electri- (vation. I'll inform the chief." cian still sat on the curb and smoked his black pipe.

Mail by Airship.

A speck developed in the eastern sky and drew nearer, enlarging rapidly. Then the Washington mail came into sight, and landed at the areoplane sta-tion near the entrance to the power station. A mail clerk came down the elevator after the sacks had been thrown into the chute. He was questioned eagerly by the men still stand ing about the bulletin board, but had nothing of news later than that which the bulletins had given them.

As he stood talking, another message

was flashed on the board:
"Williams says that opposition to the majority will cease. War will be declared before night."

At that the shock-headed youth arose suddenly from the curbstone, walked rapidly through the gates and on into

the grounds of the power station. Vast Central Power Station.

The Susquehanna Coal and Power The Susquehanna Coal and Fower never lost its complacency—had never District, supplying not only Washingston, but New York with electricity for all purposes of light, heat, and power, was the largest of the government power areas into which the country was divided. Its coal mines were of was divided. Its coal mines were of to carry it on. was divided. Its coal finites were of the greatest extent, its power station gigantic, and its employees an army. New York with its millions, and Wash-ington with its institutions, secured all

marked over its doorway, with the serve to destroy this illusion—it was word "Administration." It was surword "Administration." It was surrounded by beds of sweet-peas, which a gardner then was watering. The young man went up the graveled walk without looking to right or left, pushed open the door, went the length of the inner hall, turned to the right, and the patient way. Across the Atlantic, as the military man of the national life.

Now popular o try was forcing an a part of the national life.

Now popular o try was forcing an a part of the national life.

Now popular o try was forcing an a part of the national life.

He reached over toward the keyboard Atsins put out a restraining hand and held him, shaking his head in igorous protest.

Well. I guess you are right there, too," the older man said; "do as you think best."

Catches Airship for Capital. Atsins turned away instantly, and again with rapid stride went through he grounds. On looking at his watch he broke into a run heading for the aeroplane station. By quick sprinting he reached the lift just as it was making its last trip up to connect with the fast Washington mail ship. It touched as he came out on the platform, and he was aboard just in time.

TT. In the early history of the nation there had been a much applauded maxim: "In time of peace, prepare for war." The people had never deviated from their policy of applauding and ignoring this wisdom of one of their said. "Some other time—, if there's carliest statesmen. The nation had earliest statesmen. The nation had never lost its complacency—had never

Nation in a Trance

With the self-deceiving theory that they were not a militant people, they power from the wires charged by the had continued to delude themselves in dynamos of the Susquehanna District. the '-lef that war for them was next The shock-headed electrician kept his to impossible. Their history, a record rapid stride through the grounds until of conflicts made costly because underhe came to a one-story brick building taken without preparation, did not

He was told to errer, and did so, taking off his cap.

A middle-aged, gray-haired, spectacled man sat at a desk in the center tion in general knew this, but allowed