

Constance the Cop

How She Was Made a Real Policeman, How She Has Achieved Arrests and Has Been Threatened by Black Hand Letters, How She Has "Made Good" ---
AND HER NAME IS KOPP!



How She Made an Arrest When the Prisoner Showed Signs of Rebellion.

I asked him what he wanted. There was no response. I shot through the window screen. I fired several shots directly at me. Three other times have my sisters been shot at by would-be assassins.

"While we did not know who the guilty ones were, of course, we did know that they were brought to within a short distance of the house in a machine, for a few minutes after the shots were fired we heard the auto cranked and start away."

Capture of the Conspirator.

It was the nerve of Constance Kopp, which, from the anonymity of the threatening letters, brought to light the ex-convict, George Ewing, alias George Johnson. The crook, after being flashed before the sight of the officers of the law, was trailed to the Neshanic Mountains by the good sheriff and captured. And he confessed that he alone was responsible for the entire conspiracy.

"I'm the lone guy that wrote the Black Hand letters to Mrs. Constance Kopp, of Wyckoff, threatening to kidnap her pretty daughter, Florette. The names of the three Italians I gave as the men I knew were planning the abduction are fakes. I

pad were the names of his three alleged accomplices and their criminal records.

The plan to abduct Florette Kopp and take her to Chicago was also set forth. Sheriff Heath says he is sure Ewing planned to entice Miss Kopp to a hotel and there use the chloroform on her.

It was deemed, and with good reason, too, that Constance Kopp had qualified herself to be a real Official Cop. Thus it is that Hackensack is proud of her and considers that the appointment has been more than justified by her recent capture of the Rev. Herman Albert Von Matthesius, a fugitive from the New Jersey town.

She hung to his trail and finally came upon him at one of the entrances to the New York subway. Quietly she announced herself, showing her shield, saying softly: "You are under arrest; come with me!"

He showed a strenuous indisposition to accept the invitation and put up a struggle that might have overmastered even a husky man, for, recently the master of a sanatorium, he was both trainer and athlete.

But in all his athletic experience he had not run afoul of the halting as impressed upon him by Con-



Florette Kopp, Sister of Constance, Who Believes That She Was the Subject of an Abduction Conspiracy.

CONSTANCE the Cop" is a real police officer, stout-hearted and daring. She does not hesitate to venture into a physical mixup with the sterner sex in the pursuit of her duty. Also does she operate the "halter hug," which, though it may sound rather enticing to the imaginative masculine reader, still has proved to be just as distressingly effective to the culprit as a regular wrestling strangle hold. For Constance's arms are both lithe and muscular, and while they unquestionably could be shaped to tenderer ends have, nevertheless, the compressive power of steel cables when hardened by the call of duty.

Constance has bright expressive eyes, a smiling mouth, a sense of humor and the ability to handle a gun. She ventured out during a starless night, armed and alert, to capture a blackmailer, who had demanded money.

She has been fired at by secret enemies and promptly gave shot for shot. She arrested, after a desperate hand-to-hand struggle in New York city, a fugitive whom she had trailed for several days.

She ran down and caused the arrest of a convict terrorizing the family, threatening her younger sister, and attempting to blackmail.

She arrested and had convicted a silk-mill owner for sending her threatening letters.

She is the ONE special policeman of Hackensack, New Jersey. Not only because she does actual police work has she earned her title, but because of her name, as well. She was christened, in the small, inconspicuous beginning of her career, Constance Kopp.

The Villain Pursues.

The Kopp residence at Wyckoff is surrounded by extensive grounds. Three daughters live with their widowed mother. The facts preceding Constance's appointment as the only woman sleuth of Hackensack reads like the scenario of a five-reel movie thriller. Constance, Norma and Florette all carried revolvers during the reign of terror. And the peril proved to be sinister and shuddering when it was finally revealed in its fulness and the villain brought to book.

The trouble was coincident with the suit of the young woman against

Harry Kaufmann, a Paterson silk manufacturer, whose motor car smashed into a buggy containing her sister. They sued and obtained a verdict of \$50. Then later Constance arrested and had him fined for assaulting her on the street. The prowlers came in a motor car, and shot at the house and its inmates.

The Black Hand letters came with regularity, but neither the local authorities nor the postal agents could discover their source. One of them read:

Madam: We demand \$1000 or we will kill you. Give money to girl dressed in black at the corner of Broadway and Carroll street, Paterson, Saturday night. If you don't pay we will fire your house. We know your horse and wagon. We live in Paterson. Ha! Ha! H. K. & Co.

Diamond Ring Clue.

The Kopp felt that the threat to burn the house was not idle, for one day during their absence men had broken in and smashed much of the furniture and piled it in a heap as though to make a bonfire. In their haste to depart one of the invaders left his overcoat, cane and diamond ring. And the detectives—that was before Constance got to work in real earnest—never were able to trace the ownership.

The fire threat sent Constance, with a magazine pistol in her muff, to keep the appointment. But no one appeared to claim the money. Sheriff Heath of Hackensack also patrolled the neighborhood for an hour in an automobile but saw no suspicious persons. And the notes still continue to come.

"We lived in constant terror," said Miss Kopp in recalling the persecution; "but Sheriff Heath came to our assistance and provided us with a guard at our home. He even took the trouble to bring the deputy from Hackensack every day. I don't know what we would have done without his assistance and that of a kind neighbor of ours, a New York policeman, who also came over every night to serve as guard."

"One evening, just after dusk, I happened to look out of my bedroom window and I saw a man standing near a tree, 30 feet from the house.

Constance Has Bright, Expressive Eyes, a Smiling Mouth, a Sense of Humor, and the Ability to Handle a Gun. She Does Not Hesitate to Venture Into a Mix-up with the Sterner Sex in the Pursuit of Her Duty."

Here Is CONSTANCE KOPP, the Hackensack (N. J.) Policewoman, as She Looks Today.



The Three Kopp Sisters All Carried Revolvers During Their Hackensack "Reign of Terror."

learned that the Kopp family were wealthy and I thought this an easy way to cop a bunch of coin."

It was after a lull in the letters and it was hoped that the trouble of the family had ceased, that the mother received this communication asking whether she cared to learn important information concerning one of her daughters and begging her to meet the writer in Somerville:

"I overheard a deep-laid conspiracy to abduct your daughter, Florette. You have in some way been able to obtain the abhorrence of a dirty gang of Italians. For the time being all is O. K. Tell your girl not to answer any fake wire or phone calls to hospitals or other places. This can be settled, and you and I and the gang the only ones to know it. Keep your head. Don't go and publish anything in the newspapers for it will spoil our plans."

Constance Kopp again enlisted the services of Sheriff Heath, and they went to Bound Brook with three deputies. Miss Kopp then took a train to Somerville, the sheriff and his men continuing on in an auto, to cover the station there.

Met Him Face to Face.

Miss Kopp was approached by the ex-convict, and just as she was about to hand over \$50 in marked money, two local deputies appeared on the scene. Ewing became suspicious and bolted.

Letters written to him by Mrs. Kopp, chloroform and letters written to himself but signed in other names were found on Ewing. On a small

stance the Cop. Try as he would he could not break it, and he was blue of visage when a policeman came to her rescue—and to his. Then the Sheriff, the Deputy Sheriff and Constance the Cop all went back to Hackensack.

"Gee!" exclaimed the New York policeman, "I seen some A1 strong-armed performers in my time, but that chicken cop's got somethin' on all of 'em!"

Raising Drug Plants

THE cultivation of drug plants in the United States concerning which there has been considerable agitation since the outbreak of the present war in Europe, is the subject of a Farmers' Bulletin recently issued by the department of agriculture. This publication gives, in addition to general instructions regarding cultivation, harvesting and marketing, specific and detailed information concerning about 60 of the leading drug plants which have been grown in the country.

The author, Mr. W. W. Stockberger, takes a conservative view of the possibilities offered by this branch of agriculture and especially deprecates the extravagant claims made in some quarters by persons interested in the sale of plants and seeds, who ask "the public to believe that extraordinary profits may be realized from growing medicinal plants, even in a situation no more promising than the average city back yard."

