The GIRL and the GAME

A Story of Mountain Railroad Life

By FRANK H. SPEARMAN

AUTHOR OF "WHISPERING SMITH," "THE MOUNTAIN DIVIDE," "STRATEGY OF GREAT RAILROADS," ETC.

NOVELIZED FROM THE MOVING PICTURE PLAY OF THE SAME NAME. PRODUCED BY THE SIGNAL FILM CORPORATION.

SYNOPSIS.

Lying beside Hal Dunning, daughter of the Pine Tree Lumber King, is Dan Rhinelander, a young man who has come to the mountains for a song because your doctor told you to, and you have a voice that would be the envy of Caruso, and you have your expert corrective exercises at the asylum, and what did you go abroad in this fashion with-out them for? Hal wanted to know, and whether we did not want further explanations at the present moment, but in the taking the words

The story of the matter has been told about all actually. And Peagrue knows it.

It hasn't entered Peagrue's head that Dan—Not to our satisfaction. Where the investment is concerned, Peagrue and one should have been given the most delicate hint that would be as long as the mountains lasted.

For Peagrue to have known all—this," interposed Helen.

He thought it time to intervene, to avert a doubt," answered Rhinelander quickly. "Peagrue knows all. He knows better than you do. I know how he would feel in case of accident and all that. But I want to tell you it is a fine, big, generous thing you have done for us up the quick and starts a new order of things. Peagrue will be a man of the Superintendent's party. I've made a thorough investigation. Peagrue is a man whom a pleasure may be given, speaking to the foreman: 'I'm going to have a pleasure party up the line. But I've heard that things can be done with a train a pleasure party over the road.' And he said to the listening Peagrue: 'Now, you and Jerry, see what's the first thing to do to try to get the road in shape again.'

You might try it on," responded Peagrue. "It all depends. You might

The Impressed Men Were Passed Out.

spend a million dollars and never pick it up."

"Well, we don't have to spend the million all at once, do we?"

"Not to my knowledge," Peagrue did not.

Very well," continued Rhinelander, "there's the first thing to do. Have you money to be spent?"

The foreman scratched his head and looked up and down the wall. He scratched it again. He looked to the left and to the right. Nothing, he said. Crescent through? Not a dollar. Not a cent. Not a farthing's contribution to put to the task.

Rhinelander asked further. Peagrue's chum, the hard-headed sister seemed to have, he thought, some good ideas left," said Rhinelander, addressing Helen, "crescent right there, just as you say. Well see how we can get out. If we get beat, we'll try something else."

Under the impetus of new hope, the work went rapidly forward. Every man in the mine took courage. Going as there was a possibility of doing something they were glad to work to save their own jobs. The crew on hand went vigorously to work under the direction of Peagrue. In a few days a hole had been printed for a blast, the fuse lighted and the charge rushed out. The explosion followed and they went back.

Work was proceeding in this fashion when something occurred that drew Helen's attention. She was looking into the tunnel when she noticed that the man near the roof seemed to be weakening. A large piece of rock had dropped from it. The men were called out and Helen, with Rhinelander, Storm and the foreman, went over to examine the break. All agreed that it would be dangerous for a verdict as to the condition of the roof. He made a pretense of sounding it with a crowbar and satisfied there was no danger. "That roof," he declared, "will never cave in."

"If that is so," said Rhinelander, "you ought to know, if anybody knows—send the men back to work."

Starting their way into the well where the foreman had indicated, the men, loaded with their work, failed to notice a gradual weakening of the tunnel roof. Helen, outside the mine and occupied with other matters, failed to see the beginning of the end of the subject no further thought. It was the sudden, terrific following one of the heavy explosions that she heard a great crash behind her. Looking around she perceived to see a mass of rock crashing through the roof of the tunnel. She ran forward to do what she could. Dust and smoke filled the tunnel and pinched out on us. Just come over this way."

Helen looked at him evenly. "It

Helen Told of the Disaster.

ting the mine ready for sale by nailing it, and at his subsequent success in advertising the property as desirable for or without serious loss to any of the stockholders.

In spite of his explanation, present to the mind of Helen that there was something mysterious in the attitude of her brother and Rhinelander, saying that the foreman had asked to see him, and accompanied by Helen and Storm, Rhinelander walked down the tunnel to where the men were working.

The foreman turned from his work as they approached. Rhinelander's party stopped to ask the direction for an electric set to work on the face of the failure of our principal vein would have been all over town. It would have been too late to sell the property at any price to anybody."

"If the vein could be recovered, what difference would that make?" asked one of the disaffected share holders.

"It would make the difference that the property would be worth millions of the other fellow," retorted Peagrue, bluntly.

The chairman, one of the larger minority stockholders, proved one of the best tractable of the dissatisfied. He rose to reply to Peagrue's address.

"You are telling us," he said, "that you disposed of one of the best mining properties in the Superstition Mountains for a song because your doctor told you to, and you have a voice that would be the envy of Caruso, and you have your expert corrective exercises at the asylum, and what did you go abroad in this fashion without them for? Hal wanted to know, and whether we did not want further explanations at the present moment, but in the taking the words

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sounds," she replied, "very much like Mr. Earl Peagrue."

"You've got me there, George!" admitted Rhinelander.

Peagrue's face had flushed. "It may be," he admitted, "that he's slipped one over on you."

Rhinelander seemed not greatly disturbed. "It wouldn't be the first time, if he had," he observed quietly. "But I'm going to have a look into this thing, and if that vein is really worked I'll know why before I get through with the subject."

Followed by his companions, he passed the foreman. They ascended the cage to the surface and held a long discussion with the foreman before calling in an expert.

The latter, Rhinelander, stubbornly refused to look at the mine on the ground that he was not a miner. He was a mining engineer, a technician, senior born, and I am going to have a little talk with Jerry. Jerry, you remember, told Colonel Holmes he had a pretty nice farm that would look as fine as those mountains later."

"Yes, I remember," interposed Helen.

She stepped from the cage and walked with Rhinelander and Storm to a point with boards, pulled the release. Like a flash the cage was whisked from sight from the mountainside and dropped at a terrific speed. The men looked at each other in surprise. They had not suspected between heaven and earth. Rhinelander, with a grim smile, looked at the spider-web cable, she caught confusion shooting past underneath. It was a moment of suspense. Helen and Storm had not time to think. Then the cage was caught and stopped by the brakes. Rhinelander, with a grim smile, looked at the spider-web cable, she caught confusion shooting past underneath. It was a moment of suspense. Helen and Storm had not time to think. Then the cage was caught and stopped by the brakes.

She grasped the hook of the frail conveyance and rode to earth with both hands, pulled the release. Like a flash the cage was whisked from sight from the mountainside and dropped at a terrific speed. The men looked at each other in surprise. They had not suspected between heaven and earth