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PLUNGE OVER FALLS IN BARREL BROUGHT WOMAN LITTLE REWARD

By HUGO ERICHSEN, M. D. Long before marathon dancing cross-country races, flag pole sit ing and other feats of physica endurance and daring became common means of acquiring money and fame, the world was startled one October day in 1901 when Mra. Unnie Edson, Taylor of Bay City, Mich., went over Niagara Falls in a barrel—and lived to tell of her feat.

lived to tell of her feat.

Unlike the Doers Of The Unusual, of today, however, Mrs.
Taylor was offered no moving picture, radio or even vaudeville contracts. Instead, her hopes of obtaining money through exhibitions in show houses and museums never were realized and a few

years ago she died in poverty.

During one of my many visits
to Niagara Falls I enjoyed the experience of interviewing the brave
but foolhardy, woman. I had no
difficulty in locating her in one of
the souvenir stores, at a table bearing a display of her photographs
and facsimilies of the cask in

which she courted death.

She was a woman of medium height, inclined to corpulency, and of rather coarse features. She evidently desired to impress me with her good breeding and mentioned the fact that she was a normal school graduate and highly connected down South.

"Druget Issas weeke and "I had we program to the program of the pr

August I immediately set to we in which along the control of the c

four inches...

'On the report of the state of the shore from Buffalo avenue in a boat, and was a rowed by two men to Grass Island. I then took of my hat street-skirt and coaf, and ing placed in the water. Then adjusted a wore strap around waist, and a strap from the back that went through an eye in the ened in front. This was to keep my head from violent cofates twith the barrel. I placed twy cushion in readiness, the head of the barre was acrewed down perfectly tight in readiness, the head of the barre was acrewed down perfectly tight chines, in my hand, and an air pump was used to full the barre was barrel out to the current, which they though who will be the short of the barrel with fresh air. I then put a cord in the boatmen through the short of the control of the current, which they though would early me syer the center o came on the barrel, which told my hand, and an air pump was used to full the barrel out the current, which they though would early me syer the center o came on the barrel, which told my hand, and an air pump was used to full the barrel on the boatmen towed the barrel out to the current, which they though a starting of a trip no travele and for some momental I fet! a brough I was being suffocated

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As I reached the brink the barpt did what I predicted it would

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were lost. The feeling was one of absolute horror, but still I knew when I struck the water of the when I struck the water of the water, and iffed, I should think, four or five feet clear of the water, and it water of the water, and it water of the water, and though water of the water, and water of the water, and water, and though water of the water, water of the water, water of the water, and though water, water of the water, water of the water, water of the water, and though water of the water, water of the water of

"But auddenly the barred shot out from the cataract like an arrow from a wegiving as a rightful nursh. After a short into I felt how the barrel was being drawn upon a rock. It was sone too soon, for my strength was spen. When I realized that had been rescued I fainted. The barrel was sopened by means of a wrench. As soon as the fresh air truck me, my senses returned.

"I answered: 'Yes, she is, though much hurt and confused.'

house and, after much suffering land great pain, restored to my

"Now," she concluded sadly, "it me lelling these souvenirs in order to obtain efrough money to regain possession of my barrel, which is still in the hands of my which is still in the hands of my former agent / As soon as this is accomplished / I propose to go to acquire a still of the hands of my still of the still

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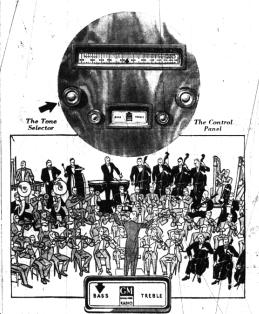
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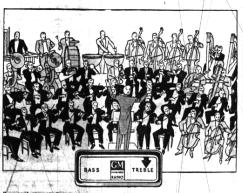
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