

KILLING WAS NOT MURDER

By H. M. EGBERT

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LAWRENCE PRESTON, murderer, occupies a good position in the social world of his native town. He is vice president of the board of trade, a respected business man, a good citizen, and has an adoring wife and children. He goes to church on Sundays and walks home with a clean conscience.

Is murder justifiable? Preston had loved Dorothy for years before Rankin appeared upon the scene, with his flashy ways and tales of wanderings and adventures. He was just the type of man who would captivate the heart of an inexperienced girl like Dorothy. Preston, to whom she was more than half engaged, saw her slipping away from him.

Dorothy married Rankin, and then ensued five of the bitterest years of her life. He took her money and spent it, partly gambling, partly on other women. Dorothy ought to have divorced him, perhaps, but she shrunk from that step; nothing like it had been known in her family, and while she was still deliberating, Rankin was killed in the train accident that occurred after the Watertown races, where he had gone to play.

The body was mangled among a heap of others and only identified by a card in a card case. It occurred to nobody that Rankin might have given his card to some chance acquaintance upon the train. Dorothy did not pretend to mourn him. Six months later she married Preston, and her real honeymoon began.

Two years of ideal happiness passed. Preston was at this time representing his firm on the road. He was away for a week when Dorothy, seated happily on the porch of their house, and thinking of him, saw a ragged tramp approaching along the road.

Something in the man's appearance, in his slouching gait arrested her attention. Suddenly she sat up in her chair, rigid, her eyes fixed with horror upon the face of the man who had been her husband.

Rankin advanced up the little walk of the garden. He grinned amiably as he came to a halt in front of the terrified girl and removed his battered hat with a mock bow.

"Well, wife," he said, "is that all you have to say to me? Aren't you glad to see me again after all these years?"

Dorothy only shrank from him. Rankin observed the movement and he grinned, not so amiably as before.

"I guess we'd better have this thing out right away," he said, taking his seat beside her. "So you thought I was dead and got married again, eh? And I guess you're happier than you were with me? And you wouldn't like to be disgraced and have to take me back?"

"I'll never do that!" cried Dorothy.

"Maybe not," he admitted. "All the same, you'd give a good deal to get rid of me and not let your husband know it wasn't my body that was found."

"What do you mean?" cried the girl.

"I mean," said Rankin sullenly, "that I'm down and out. When I heard you thought me dead and had got hitched up again, I meant to stay away. You weren't the only one that was sorry to have got married. Married life wasn't all beams and roses for me either. Now, then, how much is it worth to you to set me on my feet, knowing I'll never come back? Make it five hundred."

"You want me to deceive my husband?" cried the girl.

"I'm your husband," said Rankin with another grin. "Come now, five hundred squares it. I know you can raise that. I didn't run through all your money. I wish I had, but now it seems just as well."

Dorothy rose and faced him scornfully. "You mean that if I give you five hundred dollars you will never see me again?" she asked.

"That's about the size of it," he answered.

"I have five hundred left and you shall have it by the first post tomorrow," said the girl. "Give me your address."

"The Parker hotel," said Rankin.

That afternoon the girl drew all her money out of the bank and mailed it to him. No answer came, of which she was glad; but no Rankin returned. And Dorothy nerved herself to meet her husband on his return and keep the matter from him for his sake.

"Why, you look quite worn out, dearest," said Preston. "You'll have to run into the country for a few days' change."

She clung to him hysterically. "I don't want to leave you, Lawrence," she cried.

"What nonsense!" he answered, kissing her. "It will do you good, dear. You are as white as a rag. Come, I want you to go off on a little trip and freshen up."

Dorothy consented, and Preston spent a week in town alone. It was on the third day that a tramp, slipping along the road, looked up at the house, saw Preston, and hesitated.

Then he went brazenly up the path and stood before him. Preston recognized the man and gasped.

"Rankin!" he cried.

"You've got me," answered Rankin. "I thought you were dead."

"I guess you both did. Where's Dorothy?"

"Mrs. Preston is away," said Preston hotly.

Rankin grinned and seated himself upon the porch. "Let's talk like men," he said. "How much? How much for me to go away and never turn up again?"

"You blackmaller!"

"Oh, cut out the adjectives," said Rankin. "I guess it's worth five hundred to you not to let Do-I men Mrs. Preston—know. Five hundred and you don't hear of me again."

Preston thought, his eyes fixed on Rankin's face. He was in a trap, and for Dorothy's sake he must submit.

"I'll give you five hundred," he said. "And—listen, you hound! If ever I see you again I'll kill you. I'm a man of my word and I mean just that."

"That's all right," answered Rankin easily. "Five hundred goes."

"Be back in an hour," said Preston, "and you shall have it."

An hour later Preston handed Rankin his money, and the man shuffled out of sight along the road. Preston watched him. He had meant what he said. For Dorothy's sake he was resolved to kill Rankin if he entered their lives again.

Rankin, who had lost the five hundred in a gambling hell, took the second amount to the place. He was sure he could easily get all he wanted out of Preston. He inquired and learned that Dorothy would not return for a day or two. The second five hundred followed the first.

Rankin did not call at Preston's house again. Perhaps he had a lurking fear of violence; perhaps his nerve was not equal to seeing Preston. He wrote a letter instead, asking for five hundred more. It was a letter typical of such a man, now threatening, now imploring, and winding up with the statement that he meant to take the money and go West.

Preston received the letter when he came home from business. When he had read it he sat with hardened face, thinking. He saw this blackmail as a chronic feature of his life. He saw that in the man's death lay the only chance for Dorothy's happiness. And he meant to protect Dorothy at the cost of his life—or of his soul.

Rankin had asked Preston to meet him on the bridge across the river—a lonely spot in a deserted quarter of the town, given over only by day to factory activities. Preston put a loaded revolver into his pocket that night and walked briskly through the town until he reached the rendezvous.

As he stood on the bridge he saw the ragged figure approaching him from the low quarter of the town in which the Parker hotel was situated. Rankin saw Preston and hurried forward. He stopped a few feet away and looked at him inquiringly.

"I got your letter," said Preston calmly.

"Yes," said Rankin, deceived by the other's manner. "I meant to keep my promise to you. But I was stung and rebbed. And I've got to go West, and I'm stranded. If I stayed in town you know I'd be recognized and the truth would come out."

"It would," Preston agreed.

"I've got to get out of town, then," said Rankin. "You'd better hand over that five hundred, and I'll take the first train for California in the morning."

"Rankin," said Preston, "you are supposed to have died in that train wreck."

"Yes, but I didn't. So what's the use of talking?" asked Rankin with a sneer, thinking that the other was temporizing.

"Nobody knows you didn't die," said Preston thoughtfully.

"I guess they will soon, if you don't come across," said Rankin threateningly.

"You are as good as dead, anyway," said Preston, as if talking to himself. "Is five hundred the least you will take, Rankin?"

"Not a cent less, and it's that or exposure," answered the other.

"There's an alternative."

"There is, eh?" demanded Rankin.

"This," answered Preston, drawing the revolver from his pocket and aiming it at Rankin's heart.

He saw the terror in the blackmailer's eyes; then, pressing the muzzle to his breast, he fired. Without a sound the blackmailer toppled into the sluggish stream.

Preston dropped in the weapon after him and walked home.

Gay Colors Mark New Resort Garb

Windows Bright With Southern Attire Indicate Brilliant Mode.

Black and white combinations are featured for southern wear, along with the bright hues of red, greys, greens, beige and pinks. These hues in crepe de chine, jerseys, kasha and cashmere, are among the outstanding things that mark the resort attire. Tucks and tiny folds, up and down, crosswise, and diagonally, trim many frocks of one material. Smocking is also used, especially on dresses of jersey cloth, which, because of its softness, is particularly adaptable to this type of trimming. Usually such smocking is done in contrasting color, giving a bit more chic to an otherwise dull-colored frock.

Shoes for daytime southern wear are to be found in combinations of black and white, or brown and white, ranging from pumps, to one and two straps and the sport oxfords. Evening shoes are elaborate beyond all precedent, cut away to the sole in many instances and fastened with jeweled ties. Materials for these are of crepe de chine combined with kid in colors of pink and gold, black satin and silver kid, black satin and gold kid with jeweled ties, and cornflower crepe de chine encrusted with silver kid.

Beside these are raffia pumps, beach sandals, and low heeled sports shoes in most marvelous cuts and combinations. Truly, the woman who gathers an outfit for resort wear, must look carefully to the item of shoes, for they are of such line and quality as to



A Trotteur Developed in Wide Black and White Checked Taffeta.

display her good taste or mark her as being just a lap behind the last word in smart gowning.

For those who must face the chill winds of winter are no less intriguing garments. Colors may fall a little short in brilliance, but in cut and materials there is no lack of variety. Among the still popular outfits are the two-piece frock, and the ensemble of frock and coat. Furs are elaborate, and beautiful, and designed for every occasion. Could milady afford a wardrobe of these, she would have her rough and ready morning fur for the shopping trip a semi-formal coat for afternoon wear, and an evening wrap of ermine or sable, dyed in most exquisite tints.

In two-piece frocks designs are without number. The corded, or tuck effect is much employed for trimming where there is no color introduced, but in others bright bands and embroidery to give the touch demanded by the present vogue. Crepes, kashas, jerseys, in fact all the materials used in southern garb, are to be found in winter garments designed for colder climates. The main difference lies in hues which are a little more subdued.

Black Solves Problem in Matter of Economy

With an infinite variety in color to bewilder the woman when she goes shopping for a winter coat, black finds many advocates. Jenny advises it for economy's sake and because it settles the color question at the same stroke. Black fabric with a rough surface for winter wear should come first, according to this designer if the clothes allowance is limited. In this day of costumes in harmony, the cost of color runs up into real money. It is here that the black coat bridges the gulf between wearing one color and enjoying the variety of a varicolored wardrobe. Nearly any shade may be chosen to wear under the black coat and with matching or black accessories makes a limited sum go much farther.

Dark blue and brown are the two colors which must not be attempted with the black wrap. Another point to be observed in the selection of a black coat is that the lining must be of self color or the choice of colors for the frock is limited to those in harmony with the lining.

Coat of Tan Pony Skin, Krimmer Collar, Cuffs



Mary Philbin, the popular motion picture actress, wears this charming coat made of tan pony skin with collar, cuffs and panels of natural brown krimmer fur.

Being Well Shod More Important Than Ever

Being well shod has become one of the important items to the well-groomed woman. Today the shoe takes second place to no other part of the wardrobe, but must be given as much attention in itself and in its relation to the ensemble as the frock or hat.

Every woman knows that shoes are the most difficult articles to select. They are not as interesting as hats and gowns, yet they play an all-important role in the smart woman's wardrobe. They must be comfortable first, look good on the foot and also carry out the costume idea by matching or blending with the color or detail of the costume.

Gertrude Olmsted, the motion-picture actress, one of the best-shod women in the world, gives some valuable tips on being well shod. Here are some "dos and don'ts" from the well-known player.

"Don't allow the heels to overbalance you. When you try on a pair of slippers be sure that the heels do not throw you too far forward or too far backward."

"If you want your ankles to look slim be sure that the rumps of your shoes are long and slender and that bows or buckles do not break the line from toe to ankle."

"If your foot is short and broad avoid elaborate slippers. Plain black or white or beige pumps are much more becoming to this type of foot than the many-strapped slipper."

"Flat heels for sports wear, Cuban heels for the street, extremely high French heels for evening! I want to make that emphatic, a few women realize how important this is. A French heel can ruin the smartest sports outfit."

"When you buy shoes that are too small for your feet remember that your foot is no one but yourself. Comfort is the big consideration. Comfort improves not only the line of the foot, but the disposition as well. Too much foot for the shoe detracts from the most effective costume."

Many Accessories That Are Admired by Women

Brilliant buckles on belts, heels made entirely of rhinestones, and flowers fashioned of rubber are only a few of the new developments which make the mode so interesting and so different from the fashions of yesterday. The buckle, strange as it may seem, often is attached to a belt of beige suede for the frock of kasha in the soft neutral tone that is the height of smartness. Rubber flowers come in many colors and are intended for wear on fur coats.

The place of shoes in the mode never has been so important. One's footwear should not only be in harmony with the costume, but also suitable to the occasion. Shoes for morning, afternoon and evening are distinct types. A splendid shoe for walking or for the country is of brown calf with heavy perforated bands and a buckle placed at the side of the single wide strap. For afternoon, satin in a new tone of bronze, overcast with a grayish tinge, is well liked. For evening, black moire with a heel made of brilliants is chosen to complete the black and white vogue.

Knitted Sports Suits Popular

At this time of year, the knitted sports garments come into their own. Most of them have skirts of misty gray or green over which are worn jumpers of the brightest patterns. The Highland plaids are utilized for some of these. Fancy Hise or Hise and silk stockings with colored figures of blue or green shades are used.

The KITCHEN CABINET

(By 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Make yourselves nests of pleasant thoughts, bright fancies, satisfied memories, noble histories, faithful sayings, treasure houses of precious and restful thoughts, which care cannot disturb, pain not make gloomy, nor poverty take away from us—houses built without hands, for our souls to live in.—John Ruskin.

FOOD FOR THE FAMILY

Good bread is one of the first essentials in planning a menu. The following will be kinds one will like to serve occasionally:

Oatmeal Bread.—Pour two cups of scalded milk over one cup of rolled oats; milk and water may be used. Add

a teaspoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of shortening and when lukewarm add one-third of a yeast cake, softened in half a cupful of water. Add wheat flour to make a dough to knead from five to ten minutes. Return to the mixing bowl, cover, let rise until double its bulk. Shape into loaves and when light bake one hour. About five cupfuls of flour are required for this amount.

Nut Bread.—Take one cupful of milk, one-half cupful of sugar, one egg, three-fourths of a cupful of walnuts, two and one-half cupfuls of flour, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one-fourth teaspoonful of salt. Mix as usual and bake in a one-loaf bread pan forty-five minutes.

Coffee Cake.—Take five cupfuls of light bread sponge, three eggs, one cupful of raisins, one-half cupful of sugar, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, three-fourths cupful of shortening. Warm the shortening, add the beaten eggs, stir into the sponge, add flour until too stiff to stir. Set to rise until light. Mix sugar and cinnamon and spread the top of the cake with butter before sprinkling with the cinnamon and sugar. Bake twenty minutes or more in a hot oven.

Almond Omelet.—Take half a cupful of blanched and halved almonds, place in an omelet pan with butter, stir until well coated with the butter, using a tablespoonful, then pour in an omelet mixture using four eggs. Cook as usual, fold and roll onto a hot platter and pour over a hot maple sauce. Serve at once. The nuts will be nicely browned if they are quickly coated with butter, before the omelet is poured.

A Few Good Desserts.

To avoid monotony in dessert making, the following may be used:

Butterscotch Pudding.—Melt one cupful of brown sugar and two tablespoonfuls of butter, until brown but not burned; pour over the mixture two cupfuls of boiling milk and simmer until the sugar is dissolved. Meanwhile soak a thick slice of bread in cold water until soft,

press all the water out of it, add the yolks of two eggs, a pinch of salt and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Pour into a well-buttered baking dish and bake in a pan of water for forty-five minutes. Beat the whites of the eggs until stiff, add two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and the juice of half a lemon; beat again, spread over the pudding and brown in a moderate oven. Serve hot or cold.

Baked Apple Tarts.—Cook apples until tender in sirup, but not soft enough to lose their shape. Roll out rich pastry cut into squares large enough to wrap an apple. Brush the tops with water and dredge with sugar. Bake until well browned. Serve with a spoonful of hard sauce piped on the top of each. Pass the sirup that was left, also.

Graham Pudding.—Cream one-fourth of a cupful of butter, add one-half cupful of molasses, the same of milk, one egg, one and one-half cupfuls of graham flour, one-half teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of salt, and one cupful of raisins. Mix and steam in a buttered mold two and one-half hours. Serve with a sweet sauce.

Caramel Pudding.—Boil together one cupful of brown sugar and one-half cupful of water until it hairs. Dissolve one-fourth of a box of gelatin in enough water to cover, add to the sirup, then when cool fold in three beaten egg whites and pour into cups to cool. The white comes to the top—the brown goes to the bottom. Serve with a custard made from the egg yolks, two cupfuls of milk, sugar and flavoring.

Baked Savory Eggs.—Cook as many eggs in the shell as there are people to serve. Prepare the same number of pieces of toast, butter slightly and arrange in a dish to be served. Cut the eggs into halves lengthwise and remove the yolks. Put two halves on each piece of toast. Have ready a small amount of minced tongue or chicken, mix with the egg yolks, adding a little softened butter, salt and pepper to taste. Pile the stuffing on each egg white, making it round up in a little mound; sprinkle with buttered crumbs and set in a quick oven to brown the crumbs. Have ready a cupful of white sauce or a thickened, seasoned tomato sauce. When the eggs are hot pour the hot sauce around the eggs but not over them. Serve at once.

Nellie Maxwell

Quart of Water Cleans Kidneys

Take a Little Salts if Your Back Hurts, or Bladder is Troubling You

No man or woman can make a mistake by flushing the kidneys occasionally, says a well-known authority. Eating too much rich food creates acids, which excite the kidneys. They become overworked from the strain, get sluggish and fail to filter the waste and poisons from the blood. Then we get sick. Rheumatism, headaches, liver trouble, nervousness, dizziness, sleeplessness and urinary disorders often come from sluggish kidneys.

The moment you feel a dull ache in the kidneys, or your back hurts, or if the urine is cloudy, offensive, full of sediment, irregular of passage or attended by a sensation of scalding, begin drinking a quart of water each day, also get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any pharmacy; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast and in a few days your kidneys may act fine.

This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for years to flush and stimulate the kidneys; also to help neutralize the acids in the system, so they no longer cause irritation, thus often relieving bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everyone should take now and then to help keep the kidneys clean and active and the blood pure, thereby often avoiding serious kidney complications.

Taxis Travel on Water

"Water taxis" are to be used in Amsterdam for service in the canals which wind about the city. The taxis will accommodate two to four persons and are really small motorboats with cabins, the taximeter being attached to the shaft of the propeller. The taxis were decided upon to meet the increased growth of the city on both sides of the River IJ, as well as the other waterways of the city and nearby districts.

DEMAND "BAYER" ASPIRIN

Take Tablets Without Fear if You See the Safety "Bayer Cross."

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians for 26 years. Say "Bayer" when you buy Aspirin. Imitations may prove dangerous.—Adv.

Patting Him in His Place

Patting Teller—Sorry, madam, but your account is already quite a bit overdrawn.

Lady—Well, suppose it is. Haven't I a right to do what I like with my own account?

Longest Telescope

The longest telescope in the world has just been erected in the Trepower observatory in Berlin. It is 68 feet 10 inches long.

Loosen Up That Cold With Musterole

Have Musterole handy when a cold starts. It has all the advantages of grandmother's mustard plaster without the burn. You feel a warm tingle as the healing ointment penetrates the pores, then a soothing, cooling sensation and quick relief.

Made of pure oil of mustard and other simple ingredients, Musterole is recommended by many nurses and doctors. Try Musterole for bronchitis, sore throat, stiff neck, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, croup, asthma, neuralgia, congestion, pains and aches of the back or joints, sore muscles, sprains, bruises, chilblains, frost feet, colds of the chest. It may prevent pneumonia and "flu."

