

MONTE CRISPEN A TALE OF PHILADELPHIA

WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR THE EVENING LEDGER BY ARNOLD GARRY COLM Copyright, 1916, The Public Ledger Company.

CHAPTER XIX—Continued

HAD the broker not said it was wrong to rob a widow, Thank God, he had no children. His wife, a good woman, would not miss him long. She had the Chestnut Hill home and her social friends. Then there was the insurance money. No one would ever know but that he had died from heart disease. He smiled grimly and gazed dully at the board as he thought how well he had planned everything in advance.

He kept thinking about Velasquez. For two days he had tried in vain to see him. The mysterious house in West Philadelphia had seemed deserted that morning. No use to turn Velasquez over to the police. It was he, Birdseye, who had stolen. Then there were those blueprints. He would never do to speak of that. He had betrayed a sacred trust. He put his hand into an inside pocket and drew forth a sealed letter. It was addressed: "Craig Andrews, executor John Montgomery estate." He thought of the old gentleman, his dead employer. He shivered.

He put his hand into his waistcoat pocket and fished up a piece of crystal wrapped in paper. As he opened it furtively it looked like a glass lens. It was a pellet of cyanide of potassium. He felt damp all over. Years before, when working at a gold smelter laboratory in the Southwest, he recalled he first encountered the poison. His reverie was interrupted. The cashier passing nodded friendly like, and said to him: "Good-day, Mr. Birdseye." The fat man hesitated no longer. He slid the whitish crystal into his mouth; and sure, and it was down. He was sure the board boy saw him.

And staring at the figure on the board, suddenly they began to dance before his eyes. A sharp pain seized him in the region of the heart. The letter to Andrews fell from his fingers to the floor. He felt himself fade away into a great waiting world. He was off into unknown space. His lips moved, and the man in the next chair heard him whisper: "Never—rob—widow."

They thought him asleep. It was 3 o'clock and the stock market had closed. After taking off his short apron, with outside pockets for chalk, the board boy came closer and called him. No answer. Then Harrison came out of his private office, and noting the deathly pallor on Birdseye's face sent for a physician. Once Birdseye had given the board boy a \$5 bill. The boy said nothing about the white crystal he had seen glisten in the fat man's hand. He was not sure. It might have been a coughdrop or a piece of alum.

Harrison the broker picked up Birdseye's letter to Craig Andrews. His surmise was correct. So he slipped the sealed letter into a large envelope along with a cablegram from Rio Janeiro, which he pencilled "confidential." He sent them over to the lawyer's office before the arrival of the physician. He was a wise

broker, a very smart man. And he knew Andrews and his worth.

Later, when the physician gave "paralysis of the heart and apoplexy" as the cause of death, Harrison readily concurred. "No autopsy necessary," said the doctor, half inquiringly. "Oh, no!" said the broker. "His extreme corpulence indicated apoplexy. His heart must have been weak; one of our best customers, too. Very sad for his widow."

On account of Birdseye's great bulk, two men, who came after the doctor had gone to report to the Coroner, found difficulty in getting the body into the elevator and out of the building.

There were short obituaries in the final editions of the evening newspapers about the prominent citizen whose heart gave out in a well-known broker's office.

CHAPTER XX. The Vanishing Velasquez.

IT WAS that stinging phrase "no business experience or capacity," released from its prison in the cryptic cross, that most nettled Monte Crispén. He wondered if that was the popular impression

A New Edgar Rice Burroughs story begins Tomorrow

Read this thrilling narrative by the author of "Tarzan" and "At the Earth's Core." It is called "Under the Moons of Mars"

regarding heirs in general, and he found a crumb of comfort in the conclusion it was. They say the Zeppelin raids on London stimulated enlistment.

The immediate effect of criticism upon our young multimillionaire was to cause him to express his rage after the fashion of Leo, the great lion at the Zoo in Fairmount Park; i. e., walk it off. Monte made a dozen turns in the study room of his home before he spoke to Craig Andrews, the lawyer, and Agent W., the Department of Justice investigator, both engaged in discussing the solution of the cryptogram made by Binns, the code expert, the night before.

"No use trying to get experience out of books," Monte finally observed. "Dope, yes; experience, no. Next week finds me in Kensington. Are you ready to plant me where I can get hold of things?" He addressed Andrews.

"Only waiting for you to say the word my boy," approved the lawyer. "I know just the family for you to live with. Well, it's next week. This is Thursday. Then that's settled."

"Ho! ho!" laughed Agent W., now a

great favorite with Monte. "So once again we will have 'Mr. Tallier, the efficiency expert.' Remember what I said about store clothes, and soft-pedal manners; there is more balanced courtesy at a 10-cent picture show in the mill district than in \$5 seats at the opera."

"I won't stand for that," dissented Monte, "and I am no snob."

"Anyhow the Kensington ladies take their hats off without making a fuss about it, and they don't talk during the show," snorted the Government official with a grin. He changed from banter to dead seriousness.

"If anybody is going to pull off strikes and labor difficulties at the Crispén Textile Mills you should make it your business to get in on the ground floor. I have no doubt but the secret police of at least three European governments have the photographs of every man in the American Secret Service. That is our greatest handicap. My judgment is that the Sig-vay gang is operating independently of any foreign power; simply a band of international crooks, under a daring leader, that has taken advantage of the war and come to America with a variety of commissions. You are just the man to give these rascals a good battle. Read the message of the cryptogram over again."

With meticulous care, Monte scanned the revised communication, amplified now with connecting words supplied by the lawyer and Agent W. It ran:

Regarding the properties held in trust for Montgomery Crispén: At the iron works the west mill has been double mined with extra heavy dynamite charges, to be exploded by wireless. The men on this job are 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27.

At the textile mills strikes for higher wage and shorter hours have been arranged. The men at this task are 28, 29 and 30.

At the shipyard opposition to the new navy program will have its effect in keeping the plant from getting new business. The men at this task are 31 and 32.

Negotiations are progressing with a company official who seeks to impair the value of all the properties so as to buy them at a cheap price, when Montgomery Crispén qualifies as actual owner under his uncle's will.

As yet the three men were unaware of the grippingly dramatic events that had transpired in and about the Velasquez House of Mystery, in West Philadelphia; nor had they heard of the death of Lemuel Birdseye, the weak link in the Montgomery chain of employees.

There are some compensations after all in being a reader, and having advance information upon events as they unfold. "While you and Andrews are chiefly concerned with the threat against the textile mills, and the intimations that you have a renegade on the payroll," spoke up Agent W. "I am most interested in these numbers."

(CONCLUDED TOMORROW.)

SEEN IN THE SHOPS



EVER-SERVICEABLE SEPARATE BLOUSE

HERE is a simple and very practical blouse of crepe de chine. It is quite suitable for the business girl or her butterfly sister, for the lines are plain and the quality of the material is good. A yoke from which box plaits fall, giving a becoming fullness, constitute the front of the blouse. A vest and collar of the same material are fastened with pearl buttons. The collar is convertible. The sleeves are bishop models, and the shoulders are slightly dropped, just enough so to give distinction. Turnover cuffs are also featured. The model comes in white, maize or flesh color at \$2.95.

The sports hat shown is fashioned of peanut straw with the new quilt edge of bright green silk. A beaded ornament of garnet and black stones is seen at the front of the rather high crown. In any other color combination desired, the price is \$10.

The name of the shop where these articles may be purchased will be supplied by the Editor of the Woman's Page, EVENING LEDGER, 608 Chestnut street. The request must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and must mention the date on which the article appeared.

HOUSEHOLD PHYSICS

FAUCETS Get Busy! Fix That Leaky Spigot!

By VIRGINIA E. KIFT

IT is only the "idle rich" who can pay a plumber for his time on such a small job as a "leaky" spigot, so before the brown stain on your white porcelain basin gets any darker fix the thing for yourself.

On your way home to-night stop at the hardware store, invest 5 cents in various size pipe wrenches for spigots (unless you know the exact size which you will need) and a monkey wrench, if you have not already got one, then start out to fix those "leaky" faucets.

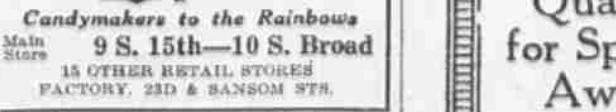
First, visit the cellar with your monkey wrench, find the main water supply pipe which usually runs from the street through the foundation wall, locate the stop cock and turn the handle at right angles to the pipe, which will shut off the water. If the handle sticks, use the monkey wrench.

Next travel to the defective faucet, loosen cap nut (d) with the wrench and unscrew the "stem" (e). Using a screw-driver, take out the screw at the end of the "stem" (don't lose it) and discard

the defective washer (a), the cause of your trouble. Try your new washers until you get one which exactly matches the one taken off and then screw it firmly to the end of the "stem" with the screw (b), resecure the "stem" in the spigot and tighten the cap nut (d) with the wrench. Make sure that the faucet does not leak at this point (d).

Water flowing from the supply pipe enters the space at the lower part of the spigot and is unable to get out. When the handle of the spigot is turned on, the washer is raised from its "seat" and a small opening occurs. At every turn of the handle, owing to screw motion, the washer is raised still further, the opening becomes wider and in consequence a great volume of water escapes. In a "leaky" spigot the washer has been worn away; it does not rest securely on the "seat" beneath, and the tiny crack thus formed is sufficient to allow that annoying "drip."

When you have renewed the washer, de-



TYPE "3" hot and cold water. This spigot requires only a Fuller ball for its repair. (Hardware store, two for five cents.) With a monkey wrench unscrew the "union" (d) and remove the spigot. Through the spigot from handle (g) to ball (c) runs a short metal rod (f). When the handle is turned the rubber ball (c) is forced back-ward, permitting the flow of water. When the handle is down, the ball fits tightly into the seat (h) and prevents the escape of water. A cracked or leaky ball will naturally cause the spigot to drip. To renew this ball, unscrew the small nut (a) at the end of the rod (f), take off the washer (b) and ball (c). Replace the worn-out ball with a new one and put back the washer (b) and the nut (a). To make sure that the ball is correctly adjusted, move the handle a few times and note if the ball fits firmly against the seat. Keep tightening the small nut (a) until a firm fit is obtained. When it has been fitted satisfactorily, replace the spigot in the "union" (d) and screw up the "union" tightly. Turn on the water in the cellar and test the faucet to see if it drips or leaks at any new or unexpected place. Following directions will prevent having to repeat the work because it is not well done.

When you have fixed your own spigot you have delved into mechanical physics, saved a plumber's bill and made yourself a "handy man" around the house. Is it worth it? Try it and see!

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FIRE IN COTTAGE GIVES SHORE FOLK EARLY MORNING SCARE

Home Bought From Mrs. J. T. Hunter, Philadelphia, Damaged

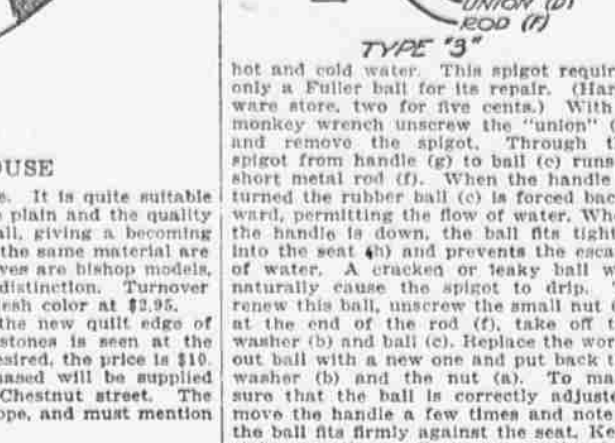
ATLANTIC CITY, April 7.—White-robed cottagers had an anxious 15 minutes at 3 o'clock this morning, when six engines and two truck companies clattered into the up-town residential district to fight a threatening blaze in an unoccupied \$17,500 cottage recently purchased by Dennis A. Gormley, of this city, from Mrs. John J. Hunter, of Philadelphia.

The building was saved. The fire had been burning for hours before it was discovered by a messenger boy, and had spread between the walls from the basement to the roof. Gormley had insured the cottage for \$10,000, and had planned to take possession in a few days.

THE CHEERFUL CHERUB

House-cleaning time has come at last. My heart is wild with glee. Now I can jump on my mattresses. A pleasure dear to me.

Baptists Plan to Raise \$200,000 Beginning next Sunday, the Baptist Institute for Christian Workers will begin a campaign to raise \$200,000. The money will be used to pay off a mortgage of \$55,000, add another story to the building at 1425 Snyder avenue and start an endowment fund. It is planned ultimately to raise an endowment of \$200,000. About \$50,000 is wanted within 30 days.



Havana Brown Vamp With White Top Lace Boot

A RICH and distinctive model—right in the height of its popularity. In a shade and combination effect that is much in demand by discriminating women.

This model is equal in every way to the SOROSIS high standard.

Better still, it is sold to you with the same guarantee of footwear satisfaction that is offered to every wearer of SOROSIS makes.

How to match if desired.

SOROSIS SHOES

1314 Chestnut Street

FARMER SMITH'S RAINBOW CLUB

A Modern Fairy Tale

Dear Children—The flower days are coming and we want to be ready for them, and so I am going to tell you a story, so very still.

Once upon a time there was a very beautiful lady, and she used to go to the East Side in the great city of New York carrying flowers for the children.

Wasn't that a beautiful thing for the beautiful lady to do?

Well, one day as she was walking along the streets where the houses are not very beautiful and where there are lots and lots of children living all huddled up in one house she met some boys. They saw the flowers and tried to take them away from the beautiful lady.

Wasn't that a rude thing to do?

The beautiful lady wasn't a bit frightened, but said: "Boys, I am so glad you have come to help me carry these flowers to the children, for sometimes the little people try to take them away from me and I want you to protect me."

The boys were so ashamed that they one and all agreed to go with the beautiful lady, and when she arrived at the settlement house she invited them in, and they went, and not only then, but many times after that.

Many, many of the children in large cities never see the grass and many of them take little pieces of flowers which have been given them and save the little bits for many days. Such, dear children, is the message of the flowers, and as the warm days come we are going to ask you to gather flowers for our hospitals and send them from The Rainbows and—perhaps it will make the beautiful lady happy when she hears what we have done, for your editor always thinks of her when the flower time comes.

You must all try to find the message of the flowers.

FARMER SMITH, Children's Editor, EVENING LEDGER.

Our Postoffice Box

Young Robert Beaumont, Mt. Airy, has his own interesting letter speak for itself: "I have a robin house and have found that apples will attract more robins than bread will. I expect to build a martin house and place it on a high pole. I am very much interested in wireless and have an outfit that really catches messages. I wish to send a message to Heth Borden, of Webster street, who also knows something about wireless. Here it is:

I also want to send an "English message" and that is "Love to all the Rainbows." We know Heth Borden will send a speedy reply to this message. Any other "wireless outfits" that catch it are welcome to forward a return "dot and dash."

Way down in Florida, where she has been spending the winter, Mildred Mote heard about the Rainbow Club through the faithful letters of her little friend, Dorothy Batten. The very first thing she did when she returned to her home in Woodbury, N. J., was to send in her pledge. A welcome to you and a "thank you" to Dorothy.

Ethel Stoneman, Stiles street, wants to send in jokes. We will be pleased to receive and to publish them if we think other Rainbows will enjoy them.

Alice McLaughlin, Gloucester, N. J., sends in the names of Elizabeth and William Thickett as her first members. Alice is working very hard to get 35 members, and of course she is going to succeed. Bertha Shalvitz, South 4th street, has organized a "Rainbow Composition Club." Please send particulars, Bertha, so that others may follow up this original little plan.

Your editor acknowledges with appreciation drawings and stories from George Thomas, South 5th street; Michener Sizer, East Johnson street; Bettina Avella, South 7th street; Maurice Lang, Egg Harbor, and Henry Forestein, Winton street.

The "gratitude department" registers the following names: Mary Blotta, Dickinson street; J. Cohen, Lytton Horwitz, West 4th street, Wilmington, Del.; Charles Sparks, Snyder avenue; Helen Hauber, North 14 street; Ruth Burt, E. Sterner street; Francis Maguire, North Park avenue; Wesley Montgomery, Cross street; and George Thomas, South 5th street.

BOYS AND GIRLS. If you want to earn money after school and on Saturdays, write to Farmer Smith.

Friends of the Rainbows

Stamps for Rainbow Collectors

1000 mixed for 40 cts.; 1000 all different for \$1.50; new price list of 500 different "Dime Stars" for 75c.

PHILA. STAMP CO. New address, 21 South 17th St.

A Bargain for Rainbows

We have a lot

50c Special Clamp Table Vises

25c

Postage in extra. Has 1 1/2 inch jaws, wrought steel screw and steel guides. Rainbow Headquarters for Tools

SHANNON 816 Chestnut, Philadelphia

Kiddies Kandies

You Rainbows will certainly enjoy these yum-yum candies, and they're absolutely pure and wholesome, too.

LOOK AT THESE SPECIALS

Old Fashioned Stick 15c lb. Candy

SOFT YELLOW 25c lb. JACK

Puffed Rice, Egg 5c each Balls & Squares

Special prices for faster cash! For Sundae Parlors, etc.

Montague & Co. Candy-makers to the Rainbows

9 S. 15th—10 S. Broad

15 OTHER RETAIL STORES FACTORY, 23D & BANSLOW STS.

Hello, Boys!

ENTER EARLY! MANN'S ERECTOR CONTEST WIN A PRIZE! ENTRIES IS FREE.

Get busy! Manufacture your own Erector! Build your own house! Build your own bridge! Build your own tower! Build your own castle! Build your own fort! Build your own city! Build your own world!

Complete stock of Erector sets and accessories. Ways on hand.

SEE OUR WINDOW.

L. H. BARTMANN & SON 212 Market Street, Philadelphia

HOUSEHOLD SUGGESTIONS

Sani-Can Waste Receiver

No need of stooping down to remove the cover of the Sani-Can—touch of the foot opens and closes. Automatically sprinkling a powerful disinfectant and deodorant, arresting decomposition and destroying all objectionable odors. The inside of the Sani-Can is removed from the frame whenever the contents need cleaning. Steam sterilized throughout in pure white enamel.

Price \$3.00

J. Franklin Miller 1026 Chestnut St. The House Furnishing Store

ASK FOR and GET HORLICK'S THE ORIGINAL MALTED MILK

Everything Is Marked in Plain Figures You Are Invited to "Try On" Any Model That Pleases You

For here she will find the super-smart style that is so desirable, at prices that are often less than she would expect to pay for the most ordinary garments.

Louso's is unique—it is different from any other in Philadelphia, and you will always find here a collection of Sport and Tailored Suits, Sport Dresses, Afternoon and Evening Frocks, exquisite Blouses and striking Skirts, that is, we believe, unduplicated anywhere else.

May we have the pleasure of showing them to you?