EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1919

A Mystery Story

THE SOLITARY HOUSE By E. R. PUNSHON

Copyright, 1919, by Alfred A. Knopf. Inc. (Copyright, 1919, by Public Ledger Co.) THIS STARTS THE STORY

Keith Norton makes himself at in a deserted house. Searching for somebody who choked him while he slept, he discovers a box of jewels and hides it in the well. He finds an unconscious girl in the woods. She had been attacked by some mysterious creature. He takes her to the village. A stranger attempts to bribe They quarrel. A hairy creature attacks him, binds him and buries him alive in a shallow grave, from which he, with difficulty, escapes. Returning to the house, he finds it occupied by its former tenants, Dick Wentworth and wife. They are visited by Dick's uncle, who upbraids his nephew for foolishness and worse and destroys the will made in Dick's fayor. He then departs by way of the woods and is mysteriously murdered there. In the meantime Keith and Dick discover that the jewels hidden in the well have again disappeared. Dick's wife discovers that the girl attacked in the woods and who had lost her memory as a consequence is her sister Esme.

AND HERE IT CONTINUES

Waiting

WHEN Keith awoke it was to find himself in pitchy darkness. He could not for the first moment remem ber where he was or what lad happened. and he felt extraordinarily stiff and very cold. Each one of his limbs ached at first when he tried to stand up he could not and fell back into the chair on which he had been sitting. "Are you awake?" said a voice from cited. She spoke of going to her sister

· little distance.

dle of the night. "Yes . . . yes," he muttered confusshe thought of Dick. "I wish he would come back." edly. "Yes . . . where am 1? How dark it is." He heard a clock begin to said irritably : "he said he wouldn't be strike and he counted twelve strokes, long. Why is he so long? What made "Oh. it's midnight," he said, as though you guess I was Esme's sister, if she couldn't tell you anything about herthat explained all. self? You see," Keith explained, "she

He began to rub his stiff and aching You see." Keith explained, "she limbs, and he remembered now very had been here before. She was all limbs, and he remembered now very right then, of course, and she spoke of clearly all the crowded strange events of her sister she was looking for. She recent hours. seemed to think I ought to know where

"Have the police come?" he asked her sister was, and wouldn't believe me suddenly.

very upset, and she seemed to think I "No." auswered the voice from the had done something I oughtn't to have darkness he knew now to be Reenie's done, something in connection with the "That's funny." Keith said. He got sister she spoke of. She wouldn't listen

to his feet and began to grope his way to me at all." toward the door where it seemed snid Reenie slowly. "She must have Reenie was sitting. "It's so dark I got to know Dick and I were here: I can't see anything." he complained, think I can guess how. And so when added to those of which its silent groves every morning brought them their milk "It is very strange the police have not she came and saw you she would think and leafy trees had been a witness. from his father's farm. He seemed to beloved plant - "Meow-me-ow-ow." you were Dick-she had never seen him

-and that you were keeping me away There was no answer, and he began from her." "I see," said Keith, understanding conscious only of a heavy sensation of bicycle to the nearest police station. to fumble in his pockets and finding a

match he struck it and lighted the lamp that stood on the dresser. By its light he could see Reenie sitting on a small something frightened her." he added. "Why is Dick so long?" she asked pitcously, "Why has he not come low stool in the doorway, her chin rest- "while she was here. 1 don't know back?" ing on her hand and her elbow on her what, dout she went upstairs and seemed ing on her hand and her elbow on her knee. She was looking out into the night toward the wood, and she did not even while she was coming up the path diff. She came back afterward, and while she was coming up the path danger, do you think?" glance round when he lighted the lamp, through the wood the attack I told you though it east a long clear ray from the of was made on her."

door put into the darkness. "Well, it's funny the police haven't looked again into the darkness. "Dick after dark for any light, or anything come," he said for the third time. Is a long time," she said, "he told me else either. he wouldn't be long.". "I asked

He was feeling very hungry and he "He oughtn't to have gone," Keith mured.

"He wouldn't listen to me; he would go," she said." He is a she removed his goggles that had overtaken the uncle had also Betty saw a thin stream of crimson In any case we shall be pleased to self out a glass of milk. When he had "Oh, yes." Keith said. "Perhaps her go." give you the information mentioned, Business Opportunt- Brokers of Stocks "Anybody reading that will, say to them selves, 'Humph, these people are willing to do anything for a dollar. They can't be up to much or they wouldn't be able to tackle anything and every-thing." "A letterhead that is redundant in printed matter is always in bad form, and is generally the creation of the small, ignorant beginner, or else of the why not use the postal card righ eaten a little he shul: trients ory will come back when she sees oozing from his temple. "Yes, it's very funny the police you. The doctor thought anything con-haven't come. Hasn't Walters come needed with her former life might re-and when dawn came they were still asked him once. away? "Have you the jewelry?" Reenie "It's nothing." he said with a crooked smile. "Just bumped an up-Very truly yours MARLOW & BROWN. store her memory at once. How long is sitting there and still there had been store her memory at once. How long is it since your husband went into the back from the wood. The wood had "No." he answered. back either?" right when the old girl crashed. Now "With the letter this postal card shall "Dick thinks you have," she said, if there's a telephone station anywhere "No," she answered. sent." and Duke passed me a card "I know, but he is wrong; he ought in this neck of sand-I'd like to call to be able to see that." Keith answered, the nearest naval station-" He still "He could not understand this delay "A long time," she answered, shiver- taken him. to back from it. taken him, too, and he had not come worded as follows: He still at all, for he could conceive no reason ing a little. "We must get something to eat," He added as if to clinch the matter and smiled, but his increasing pallor alarm-To Marlow & Brown: plain : "I mean some day to marry "Come to the house and Cap'n Andy muttered. small, ignorant beginner, or else of the I have mailed you the list of books lice haven't been." How will the new rulings on fire presently : "Your husband? Where is he? You "I told him what you said about his not cat, though she was glad of the Esme." Even "What would you suggest for these you requested. people, Mr. Duke?" Esme." Even in her apathy she started at office.", Her strong young arms guided insurance affect me? I have policies as below : I feel that reading books on Latintold him . . .?" didn't believe it. He wouldn't open cup of hot tea he made her. He wrote that, him across the uneven sands to the wel-Class of risk American relations should be very help-"Just their name and address with "He is there." she said, nodding at the door at first, but I should through a note to the police authorities to say "You !" she exclaimed, "oh, no, oh, come case of her grandfather's sleepy ful to you when you get to Mexico the dark night toward where the wood the keyhole. Then he came. He was he had been anxiously expecting them no." the one line, 'Insurance of all kinds.' hollow chair. Then, with cool, deft That tells the whole story and looks again. The correspondence schools the dark night toward where the wood lay. Her words so startled Keith that he dropped the piece of biscuit he was putting to his mouth and stood for a putting to his mouth and stood for a "There?" where?" he muttered. "There," she repeated, nodding oner" "There," she repeated, nodding oner" Amount which you mention are good ones. They more dignified. Of course, it should cannot accomplish any thing-they can be printed on fair quality bond paper merely give you good material, with Month and year, etc. in simple, modest, clean type, without which you of yourself must accomplish any cuts, fancy rules and such like stupid ornamentation." results. All other things being cqual, It is understood that this is sent resident instruction is far superior to His cigar had gone out, so putting it without any obligation ou my part. correspondence instruction, and I am n the ash tray, he said : sure there are good residence courses in "There," she reneated, nodding once as she went on : "It's midnight, Peter. Let's go to chauffeur, and he hoped that now they men who had descended from it were young airman's keen eyes also noted your city. The books, names of which I have sent, will probably give as much "We may alter slightly the wording "He was * * * I think he was would act at once. more toward the wood, "He has not afraid. We tried to wake you, but we When he had written this he went both in police uniform, and Keith went afraid. We tried to wake you, but we when he had written this he went both in police uniform. The ware on his next flight. Would it not have here the general idea of a mail bed. walking together up the hill. They were the carefully tended geranium and he on the postal card and in the letter after as a correspondence course. The resicome back." she said. "Oh, well." he said at last, and nothing mattered. He said the police began again to cat and drink. "Why would come soon. We sat and waited began again to cat and drink. "Why would come soon. We sat and waited there arrived in due course the boy who TODAY'S BUSINESS QUESTION flower on his next flight. Would it not prove a sacred talisman if accompa-campaign." Duke explained. "The letdence course would give you personal contact with the instructor, which is What is a "Check" (TO BE CONTINUED) nied by the fair donor's prayers? Answer will appear tomorrow. valuable. ter, you observe. Peter, just talks one did he go?" he said, presently, for them; oh, how we waited, how long He was interrupted in his romantic thing-the recipent is confused ANSWER TO VESTERDAY'S BUSINESS QUESTION "He saw a light," she answered, "He we waited. But they never came at all, musings by the entrance of Cap'n Andy. several ideas. 'The postal card should saw a light, and so he went and he has though we sat and waited. It was not come back." dreadful * * * dreadful. After it was THE SHOEBLACK The gravity with which the bluff old be filled in with the name of the per-"Overhumorous Americans" A "Charter-Party" is a written mariner received his instructions was son or firm to whom the letter is adnot come back. 'Perhaps it was the police there," dark there was a light in the wood. We I brighten what I look upon and find the world is good. Englishmen cannot see a joke, thinks the average American. The average contract for the hire of a cessel for belied by the twinkle in his eye. dressed, so that all that has to be done Keith remarked, but he knew that both saw it. Dick said he would go and neither he nor she believed this. see what it was. He said perhaps it The sprinkler lays the whirling dust, then turns it into muda given voyage. And as he trudged through the mud is to give the general particulars The mud gets on some shiny shoes, then happiness is mine to the postoffice his thoughts kept pace policies carried. We don't even ask for in this space Mr. Whitchead will an- Englishman, on the other hand, thinks the American can see a joke, often to "You said Fong was here?" Reenie was the police. He said he must go, iid after a " "When was that?" and he has never come back." The victim looks for me, of course, then pays to get a shine hes come in-es I knowed it would, premium. No need to, as a matter of sucer readers' business questions on buy-Ab. yes, I am an optimist ! I really think it fun with an audible chuckle-"1'll fact, for rates for any particular risk ing. selling, advertising and employment, the exclusion of a more serious point but—" with an audible chuckle—"I'll be shanghaied if I ever thought it would come by air." The next complete novelette—"An Extravagant Recipe." Hart is can't see where these people—I mean Marlow & Brown—are ever going to get business. They are newcomers, people e was my sister?" there, staring out into the night. The "I didn't know; I only guessed," he wood showed only as a darker blur in When automobile splashes spoil the work that I have done she was my sister?" With fortitude 1 stand the shock because a fellow then Will have to pay another dime to have 'em shined again. answered. "She didn't tell me any the great blackness of the night, and thing. She couldn't. She had hart her as h head and her memory had quite gone." hims GRIF ALEXANDER stood and watched it himself if some new tragedy had been "Gone-her memory?" repeated Reenie, "But . . . do you mean she are easily diverted by some passing echad had an accident? Was she hurt? DOROTHY DARNIT-She Evidently Had Eaten the Sauce By Chas McManus:. -:centricity of incident, laughing even at Copyright, 1919, by The Bell Syndicate, Inc. What was it?" the awkwardness of their predicament. *An attack was made on her in the "So it is with most mishaps, per-WANT TO WHO IS wood over there," Keith answered, "Luckily I was close by, But when I IS THERE ANY OF I THINK CAN'I HAVE WHAT DO YOU A BILL-POSTER sonal or general; there is a natural HE MAN? CIVE IT TO THE SAUCE LEFT SOME disposition to seek alleviation by find-WANT IT FOR? SO AND HES RUN OUT A MAN ing some quaint aspect. found her she was insensible and her FROM THE PUDDIN "Though the cultivated American with his stock of good tales is often head had been hurt. I got the doctor OF PASTE YOU MADE? and a nurse, and they pulled her round. but she couldn't remember a thing about tedious, it is idle to deny that the ordiherself. She didn't even know her nary conversation of the man in the We only knew her first street is far richer in little turns of own name. name was Esme, because the nurse genuine humor than is the case with us. "The zest for comedy, indeed, often found some things of hers that were becomes a dangerous obsession ; it helps to secure toleration or immunity for all marked." "But do you mean . . . I don't think I understand." Reenie exclaimed. sorts of malpractices in politics or busi-She was on her feet now. "Who at-tacked her? What for? Where is she DPSS. "Only a few years ago a New York chief of police was able to continue a now? Do you meau she is badly long career of corruption and ineffi-ciency because of certain picturesque hurt? 'Oh, no, she is all right now phys-"ically," answered Keith. "But she ean't remember anything about herself. characteristics which, by making a target for popular criticism, screened him from the anger which would have dedoctor thought it was only a manded his dismissal. No people 'bear temporary c ion and would pass up so well against personal losses or away in tin a see she had had a public perils. blow o_ ... be head. She is stay-Then he lets us down easy. og in a village not far away at pres-'Yet along with this light-heartedat. You can go and see her as soon you like." ness there is a certain rectifying qual-ity of sanity, a bedrock of instinctive wisdom "-New York Evening Telewhich asked one or two more ques-



By its light he could see Reenie sitting on a small, tow stool in the doorway

Pressing his hands to his throbbing understand something was seriously. Through the open window shot a small you know, temples he tried to think clearly, but amiss, and promised with much examples and wearied mind was citement to take Keith's letter on his streak, disappeared cellarward.

This note sent off, it seemed to Keith there was nothing else to do but wait. "Why is Dick so long?" she asked and he went back to Recuie, who had scarcely moved, but still sat at the

piteonsly. "Why has he not come kitchen door like a curven statue of de-"So many never do, you see." he spair, muttered. "That wood • • • "Dic" "Do you think • • is there to him. danger, do you thick • "Dick has not come back," she said

"I don't know," he answered; "but "No. f was made on her." "In the wood?" Reenie repeated, and he saw a light. I wouldn't go there "Oh, yes," he said : "yes, of course."

"I don't." she muttered. "I don't." "I asked him not to go," she mur-Keith felt himself shivgring at her sped from the house,

helped himself to some biscuits that muttered uneasily. ness unless it is to your interest to so She sat down again on her stool, also almost beyond bearing, for in his chine she were on the dresser, and he poured him- row?" she asked. "You will take me to Esme tomor- cut, favor us with it.

DREAMLAND ADVENTURES--ByDaddy DAILY NOVELETTE

BETTY'S SHIP COMES IN By Sadie M. Stull

"NARY a sign o' yer ship today. Miss Betty? Rough sailin' fer any craft, but then it don't allus take a sunny sky ter bring th' most precious cargo inter port." Betty turned to the sneaker with a

"I was not looking for my rare smile. ship, Cap'n Andy. I was playing the game you chide me so much about-'make-believe.' I was just about to start on a journey o' dreams-to the world beyond the harbor-the 'wondervoice of opportunity.

I wus thet crazy ter see yer boasted 'wonderland' I run erway ter kindly dispositions of the sunfish. Peggy boasted wondernahu it th' fust ship N'York an' signed with th' fust ship thet needed a cabin boy." A reminiscent when she saw a glint of silvery scales the mud. Then they went at their frolic Greening along through

Betty watched the sturdy old figure out of sight ere she entered the weather-beaten cottage. As she passed the living-room door she called a cheery greeting to her grandfather. Her steps lagged as she entered the kitchen.

Then, recalling the cap'n's parting ords, she blithely set about preparing the simple evening meal. The same sad day saw the birth of

a series of wonderful sea varns, more fascinating than any fairy tale. Spun

With the payment check for her first story, Betty bought a warm sweater for liner" cargo for Cap'n Andy's pipe. Her fied action. own young heart craved roses, but her

practical eye selected a hardy geranium.

"Why, Tommy Black-what's the Dear Mr. matter !

What, indeed? The distant rumble which preceded the kitten's hasty entrance, became a roar, with a drumming accompaniment Betty had never heard with thunder.

She approached the window with him. "No," he said, staring at the wood, as she beheld a huge flying monster as she beheld a huge flying monster. bated breath. A sharp ery escaped ber. "Do you think he ever will?" she the great man bird dived sideways cleaving the mist. Even as she looked, then down-to a shuddering stop in the wet sands.

Heedless of wind and rain, Betty

vantage with Marlow & Brown if they are big enough to use it." It had never occurred to me in that way before, and I must say I felt re-liered, for in my heart I had felt that we were up against a hopeless proposi-tion. "Now notice the letterhead, Peter, "MARLOW & BROWN SS Burrage street. Keeboo, Mich. Tel. Con. Iffe Insurance Firs Insurance Real Estate House Letts Con. Tel. Con. Tel. Con. Real Estate House Letts Real Estate House Letts Brokers of Stocks Ues mured. "He wouldn't listen; he was dull and ominous tone, and indeed the not like himself; he was quite differ- heavy menace of the wood oppressed him who struggled from the wrecked mado not expect to get any of your busi-

(Peggy and Billy go swimming with General Croaker and are made tiny by water nymph grass. They find themselves in a wonderful forest at the bottom of the river, and are taken for a frolic by the water goblins.)

The Cannibal Fish Back and forth through the under-water jungle danced the merry gob-

lins. at one moment glinting in the sunshine and at the next vanishing in land' that calls to me with the golden gloomy shadows. Their frolie developed into a rollicking game of hide and seek. Cap'n Andy shook his grizzled head. This was jolly fun, for there was so

> Looking back at the bunch of grass, she saw a great, teeth-filled mouth age, too-big fish that didn't have the open wide in a sleepy yawn

gleam brightened the speaker's faded behind a bunch of grass. She rushed in greater glee than ever. Tiring of Creeping along through the murky gleam brightened the speaker's later blue eyes. "She wus a clipper, bar none, an' I got my fill o' adventure: but will ye believe me now, Miss Betty, it wusn't er bit like 1'd pietured it?" The kindly old voice ended in a chuckle. "Ev'ry bloomin' air castle went up in

Peggy.

The water goblins soon recovered but didn't a bit fancy bijing a worm. from their alarm, and after a time Poor Pat jerked out his line and re-General Croaker came crawling out of baited his hook, but he didn't catch one fish court.)

"THE WATER GOBLINS"

and Billy are arrested and land in a

BRUNO DUKE, Solver of Business Problems

By HAROLD WHITEHEAD, Author of "The Business Career of Peter Flint," etc.

Copyright.

The problem of the pr

writing form letters, then, it is neces-sary that we present a clear, logical company with a reputation for prompt whether or not you have the ability to her ailing grandparent and a "high- story, which calls for a definite, speci- and reasonable settlements has a decided advantage over competition. An make good as a movie actor. we young heart craved roses, but her "It was that thought in mind which ractical cyc selected a hardy geranium. Betty's glance turned now to that place the one Marlow & Brown are

something, but as clients whom he can tain and changeable as the theatrical using at present-the one you last read, and does serve, will naturally win busi- profession, or any kind of work sucness. An agent who is a gentleman and a man of the world, in the real sense the public. As for approaching a man-I nodded my head, and then read the

of the word, and who really knows his ager, bless my soul, he's no different of the word, and who really knows his business, will win the confidence of the people in his community, and confidence chance to show what you've got in A number of new rulings on fire inalways attracts business. No advan-tage, Peter ! Why, there's every ad-

surance have recently gone into effect. These rulings will materially affect vantage with Marlow & Brown if they all new policies written this year. If, you have any policies falling due in the near future, you will doubtless

rulings will affect you.

he interested to know how these new lieved, for in my heart, I had felt that a Of course, different policies are affected differently, so it is impossible tion. to give you exact information with

this letter, but if you will fill in and and I read this: mail the inclosed postal card we will he glad to send you this information. Yes, we sell fire insurance, but we

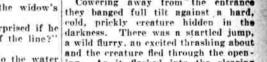
(Tomorrow will be told how Peagy

As a general rule I urge great caution

you. Your Lubin experience should help

you.

The kindly old voice ended in a character, "Ev'ry bloomin' air castle went up in smoke at th' fust port o' call, an' by th' time th' old ship tacked fer home is by th' board." Ty had been walking along the the swept beach. Now they turned is to swept scales was on a monster fish which had been sound asleep in the ship is due soon—I feel it in my weather bones. No, I won't lay to fer mess, but tell yer gran did ter keep th' forecas'le when had been sound have been 'good-by ship is due soon—I feel it in my weather bones. No, I won't lay to fer mess, but tell yer gran did ter keep th' forecas'le when had been sound have been 'good-by ship is due soon—I feel it in my weather bones. No, I won't lay to fer mess, but tell yer gran did ter keep th' forecas'le when had been sound have been 'good-by ship is due soon—I feel it in my weather bones. No, I won't lay to fer mess, but tell yer gran did ter keep th' forecas'le when had been sound have been 'good-by ship is due soon—I feel it is my weather bones. No, I won't lay to fer mess, but tell yer gran did ter keep th' forecas'le bones, ''''



of the merry, but wary, sunfish gob-

While this fun was at Its height,

"Look out! Look out! The canni-

there came a sudden rush as a whole

bal fish are coming !" they gasped. With one flirt of their tails the water

goblins vanished into the jungle. Gen-

Huge shadows moved slowly through

the water. Looking up. Peggy and Billy saw that the shadows were made

by great fish. At the same moment the fish saw them. Powerful tails thrashed

out and the water fairly boiled as the

cannibals coming fast. Quickly using his wits, Billy dug into the mud throw-

ing it up in handfuls. It rolled the water, making a concealing cloud that

finny cannibals rushed downward. Peggy and Billy fled desperately. Plunk! they hit the bottom with the

eral Croaker abruptly lost himself in a

lins. They were too wise for him.

school of minnows fied by in panic.

mass of weeds.

