

TODAY'S MYSTERY STORY

By PHILIP FRANCIS NOWLAN

Yesterday's Mystery Solution

IN THE case of "Liquid Gold" the thing which struck Harvey Hunt as unusual was the fact that the fuse blew out. The wires must have been short-circuited somewhere, he argued, and due to some definite cause.

He felt certain from his examination of the door and the window that the thieves had never entered the room. Yet the gold solution was gone from the tank. How did it get out of the tank and out of the room? His first thought had been that a hose had been slipped through the window and into the tank, but the windows across the court were too far away, and the hose would have disturbed the dust on the bars of the window of the gold-plating room.

But what about the piping conduit of the electric wires leading into the tank? If the liquid had been soaked up into this pipe it might have leaked through the insulation on the wires at some place where they touched each other and caused a short circuit that way.

His question as to the vacancy of the building next door, and his thought that an electrician might have been working on that conduit, were pure guesses. Based on the theory that the piping, though not the wires, had been into the next building and connected with a pump, whereby the gold solution could be drained out of the tank. The verification of these guesses proved to him that this theory was correct.

XXXIII Can you solve this case of— Whisky Bandits

"It's a funny thing," commented De-Kyne, looking up from his evening paper, "that the police cannot stop these wholesale thefts of liquor. I can understand how hold-up men in fast machines can drive up alongside a pedestrian on a lonely street or road, rob him of his money and make a quick getaway. But here's a case of a gang of eight men holding up the driver of a whisky truck, and after a regular pitched battle with revolvers making off with the truck and about \$25,000 worth of rum."

"What are the details?" Harvey Hunt asked with interest.

"I'll read you the article," said De-Kyne. "After a pitched battle in which several score of shots were fired, whisky bandits made off with a truck-load of liquor near Cleveland early this morning. The liquor was part of a consignment that was being shipped under permit by Joseph Duganey & Bro., from this city to Marietta."

"The truck was passing through the farm lands about two miles this side of Cleveland at 3 o'clock this morning, when it was met by a large touring car which drew up across the road. According to John Marty, the driver, and Eugene Welche, an employee who accompanied him as guard, eight men sprang from the machine and ordered them to throw up their hands. Marty and Welche, who were armed with automatics, dodged behind the truck and opened fire on the bandits, who replied with such a heavy fusillade that the two men were forced to take to their heels. They fled across an open field under the fire of the bandits, and rescued John Burnley, a farmer. Reinforced by Burnley and four farmhands, they returned to the scene of the hold-up, only to see the truck already wearing in the direction of Cleveland. So far as could be ascertained, none of the bandits was hit, though both Marty and Welche, who came through the fray unscathed, injured their automatons at them. The truck was found empty and abandoned about four miles this side of Cleveland, late this afternoon."

De-Kyne slapped his paper down indignantly.

"Pretty poor police work, I call it, Harvey. Why, what are you laughing at?"

"Well, you know, the city and state authorities are not responsible for the enforcement of the Volstead act," the criminal investigator chuckled.

"Maybe that's not, retorted his friend, "but they're responsible for running down highwaymen and bandits, aren't they?"

"Suppose," said Harvey Hunt still smiling, "that there was no hold-up. No, I'm not trying to destroy your faith in the great American press. Jack, I have no doubt that the paper reported

the events exactly as they transpired—on the surface. I think that our dear Volstead act has been fractured once more, and that's all.

"Of course, this is nothing more than speculation. I don't claim to be a second Sherlock Holmes who can arrive at infallible decisions simply by sitting in an easy chair and taking a 'shot of dope.' But here, is what I think probably happened—"

Can you tell what Harvey Hunt thought had happened, and why he thought it, from reading this newspaper article?

The answer will appear tomorrow.

Ardmore Baby Burned

Burns received while playing in the kitchen of his home at 312 West Lancaster avenue, Ardmore, Monday, resulted in the death of two-year-old Edward J. McKenty, Jr., in the Bryn Mawr Hospital. The child's clothing is believed to have caught fire from coals from the kitchen range while his mother was at a store. When she returned she found him in flames. The boy's father is a shoemaker.

Reject Brazilian Moratorium

Rio Janeiro, Dec. 22.—(By A. P.)—Proposals that the government establish a moratorium for four months were rejected at a meeting of business men held under the auspices of the League of Commerce here today.

SEA AIR FOR MME. WALSKA

Polish Prima Donna to Take Travel Cure for Voice

New York, Dec. 22.—Is the mysterious illness which suddenly attacked Mme. Ganna Walska, prima donna, on the eve of her appearance in "Zaza" with the Chicago Opera Co., one for which a sea voyage and continental travel will be beneficial?

Madame, shut in her beautiful little home at 101 East Ninety-fourth street, would not discuss her illness, her plans, or "Zaza," nor would she speak of her millionaire husband, Alexander Smith Cochran. Madame would not talk at all.

According to the passport bureau of the New York Custom House, however, Mme. Walska made application yesterday for a passport to various parts of Europe. If this application is granted in Washington it will give her permission to travel in France and England. There is, however, no report of a similar application filed by Mr. Cochran.

Deaths of a Day

John J. Fitzgerald, local manager of the P. Lorillard Tobacco Co., with offices at 1204 Race street, died suddenly yesterday afternoon in his home, at Mount Airy. Paralysis was the cause of death. Mr. Fitzgerald arose yesterday in apparent good health and was with his family when stricken.

Born in Boston in 1866, he was aged fifty-four years. He was an active member of Holy Cross Church, Mount Airy; Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society and Holy Name Society.

He is survived by a wife and seven children, William C., 3410 North Twenty-second street; Alice J., Otis S., Walter A., of 210 East Durham street, and Paul, Vincent and Mary, at home.

Funeral services will be held Friday morning, at 10 o'clock, in Holy Cross Church, Mount Airy.

William Lowry Orr

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Organization Prosecuted Thirty-one Cases During November

At a meeting of the board of managers of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, held today, Secretary Phillips submitted the following report, covering operations for the month of November, 1920:

Prosecutions, 31; cases remedied without prosecutions, 1551; horses ordered from labor for various causes, 141; pads adjusted to prevent rubbing sores, 444; coops for poultry relieved from overcrowding, 1045; animals moved in society's ambulances, 32; animals humanely killed, 312, of which 55 were horses offered for sale at the various barns.

At the stockyards our agents inspected 701 carloads of cattle, in which were found 105 animals disabled and 206 killed in transportation. Cattle ordered to be fed numbered 133, cattle watered, 133.

Burning Varnish Furnishes Scare

A fire scare was caused at 10 o'clock today at the Pean Preserving Co.'s plant, on the northwest corner of Mascher and Jefferson streets, when several cans of varnish on the fourth floor, where painters were at work, took fire in some unknown manner. The burning cans of varnish were thrown from a window into the yard and a passerby, seeing the smoke, pulled a fire box. There was no damage to the building and there was nothing for the firemen to do upon their arrival.

Street Contracts Signed

Mayor Approves Highway Awards for Grading and Repairs

Contracts amounting to \$56,845 were signed this morning by Mayor Moore. The largest item, \$28,000, for painting and cleaning the superstructure of the Frankford elevated, was awarded to the Philadelphia Painting Contracting Co. John McCool & Co. were awarded street grading contracts amounting to \$6850, the operations being on Charles, Edrick, Montague, Algard, Cottage, Gillespie and Wissinoming streets. The same contractor was assigned the grading of Rockland street. Other, with minor repairs to streets in the neighborhood, amounting in all to \$9700. Two hundred and ninety-five dollars was awarded to Stokes Bros. for the repair of a merry-go-round at the Happy Hollow Playground, Wayne avenue and Logan street. The Keim Supply Co. was given a contract for harness, halters, horse blankets and feed bags, amounting to \$12,000, the articles to be used by the Bureau of Highways.

The Rare & Treasured Gift

FEMININE SMOKERS' NICETIES

Jade Ash Receivers, 18th Century Enamels on Copper, Lacquer Cups, Silver Mounted and Lined, Ming Bisque Plates, Cigarette Boxes of Tooled Leather or Old Brocade, Inlaid with Jade Carvings.

Edward J. Farmer, Inc.

CHINESE OBJECTS OF ART LAMPS AND SHADES

116 East 56th St. New York

LA-FRANCE

A beautiful shade of Brown Calf is used in this stylish La France boot—the smartest possible shoe to wear with a new Fall suit.

Note the dainty lines of perforated trimming so fashionable this season.

If you've ever worn La France Shoes you know how wonderfully comfortable they are. Why not come in and try on a pair?

Model No. 433 \$11.50

Dalsimer 1204-06-08 Market St.

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Rubbers for the Family

Useful GIFTS Open Evenings Until Xmas Not to Be Duplicated Elsewhere

Boys' & Girls' Raincoats \$4.98 Value \$7.50 Sizes 3 years to 16

RAIN CAPES \$1.98 Value \$3.00 15 Caper \$4.98 now

Boys' & Girls' Cashmere, Canton and Tweed RAINCOATS Sizes 4 to 16 Regular \$7.50 Value \$12

Boys' & Girls' Boots \$1.98 to \$5 Special Prices on Boys' and Men's BLACK RUBBER COATS

Men's U.S. Government Hip Boots Sizes 10 to 13, value \$12, now \$4.25

Men's and Women's \$10 Raincoats. Special at

Goodyear 820 CHESTNUT STREET

S. P. C. A. MAKES REPORT

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No Disappointment to Purchasers of The CHENEY

THOUSANDS of satisfied customers will testify to its supreme quality.

Universally accepted because of its scientifically perfect acoustic principles and absolute tone control.

YOU MUST JUDGE ITS TONE

"The Longer You Play It the Sweeter It Grows"

Prices \$125 to \$1800

Cheney Sales Corporation —DISTRIBUTORS— 1105 Chestnut Street DEALERS NEARLY EVERYWHERE

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We have mailed checks to every member of the old 1920 Rittenhouse Trust-Company Christmas Club. A year from now, we will be mailing checks to every member of the 1921 Christmas Club. The rolls of the 1921 Christmas Club are now open. Join today and a year from today you will receive a check for

\$250 plus interest, or \$100 plus interest, or \$50 plus interest.

Join whichever class you think you can best afford. The \$50-Class requires payments of only \$1 a week.

The RITTENHOUSE TRUST COMPANY 1512 Chestnut Street Originators of the Christmas Club in Philadelphia

To the Public An Appreciation

The wonderful response to our unusual sale announcement of last week, calls for a word of grateful acknowledgment. We are pleased—more than pleased—and we insist that you be likewise. If in the hurry-scurry hustle of the crowds you had been unintentionally slighted, we apologize. A word to those who did or could not avail themselves of our previous advertising—we offer what's left for quick action, quick sales of the remainder of our

FACTORY SALE OF SHIRTS AT 85c to \$3.00 Retailing at \$2.50 to \$7.00

Materials include Pongees, Corded Madras, Woven Madras, Russian Cords, Silk Stripes, Imported Woven Madras and Fiber Stripes.

THESE SHIRTS ON SALE ON THE SECOND FLOOR, JUST INSIDE THE ELEVENTH STREET ENTRANCE

Piece Goods A wonderful opportunity for the thrifty woman who can make wrappers, draperies, dresses, aprons, house dresses, children's blouses, rompers, sheets and pillow cases. Prices range from 15c a Yard Upward Included are Fancy Cord Madras, Plain Cord Madras, Silk-Striped Madras, White Pique, White Corded Madras and White Muslin.

Also Our Entire Stock of Night Shirts and Pajamas

NATHAN FAGGEN & SONS Shirt Mfrs. Since 1885 Factory at S. E. Cor. 11th & Race

Never gets on your nerves

For your friend's gift

THE gift that says "Good cheer to you, my friend!" Says it in solid enjoyment added to the Christmas feast, says it over and over to brighten the busy days and quiet evening hours, says it in the true quality and mellow fragrance of a real Havana smoke—the ideal message of friendship between man and man.

GIRARD America's foremost cigar

Antonio Roig and Langsdorf Established 49 years. PHILADELPHIA



70,000 Families enjoyed the wonderful eating Qualities of Freihofer's Butter-Krist BREAD.

at last evening's dinner

It's Made With Pasteurized Milk

13c—At Your Grocer