

TODAY'S MYSTERY STORY

By PHILIP FRANCIS NOWLAN

Yesterday's Mystery Solution

"HAVE you some instrument with a blunt point?" asked Harvey Hunt, preparing to show the president of the accident insurance company how the scindlers worked in the case of "The Duplicate Seal." "Yes, that paper cutter will do nicely. Now perhaps one of your clerks can supply us with a moist sponge. That's fine."

Then as the president bent over to watch, Hunt carefully moistened the sticker of the seal on the policy before him, until finally he was able to pull it off, leaving merely the impression of the seal on the white paper of the policy.

GLORIFIES SCRAPPLE

Association Would Give Delicacy National Fame

Philadelphia scrapple should be a national institution—just as much so as Boston baked beans, or a certain brand of pickles. Scrapple is suggested for the city food slogan.

The American Berkshire Association will hold a "congress" in the First Regiment Armory on February 16, 17 and 18 to emphasize this idea.

Berkshires and the products of Berkshire—in which list are included scrapple, sausage, ham, pork chops and spare ribs—will be on exhibit at the "congress."

case to jog his or her memory. Plain case of suicide." But Reagan looked up in surprise as the criminologist granted doubtfully. "I wouldn't be so sure about the suicide part of it, Reagan," Hunt said. "There is, for instance, that mark on the chest, where the locket lies."

"Oh, that?" said Reagan. "Why that's just discoloration from the locket itself. That's what told me she was in the habit of wearing the locket underneath her clothing. It's not a bruise, you see, and there isn't a mark of violence anywhere on the body."

"Now just what do you mean by that?" he asked. "What is it you see in this thing that has escaped me? Come clear now, I'll bet with it."

"And the picture of the child," continued the criminologist, still smiling, as he examined the locket carefully. "It will prove to be a false trail if you ever find any one who recognizes it—which is very, very doubtful. On the whole, Reagan, I'm inclined to think that the woman did wear a locket of some sort, but not this silver one. If she wore a locket there was probably a man's picture in it. And the woman was poisoned. See, this silver locket is harmless enough. Just an innocent trinket. I rather imagine, too, that the murderer is no chemist, if that helps you any in your search."

"Yes, yes," said Reagan impatiently. "But what the devil are you driving at? How do you guess all these things?"

"Can you tell how Harvey Hunt guessed them?"

"The answer will appear tomorrow."

"No marks of violence either," commented Reagan. "Same old sordid story, I guess. Tired of the struggle against life—probably a man in the case—so she jumps overboard to end it all. Well, I guess we'll send out a description of the locket, and a reproduction of the picture in it, and see what it brings facts. Even though she did wear the locket underneath her clothing there must have been some one to know she wore it, and somebody surely will recognize the picture of the child, with the circumstances of the

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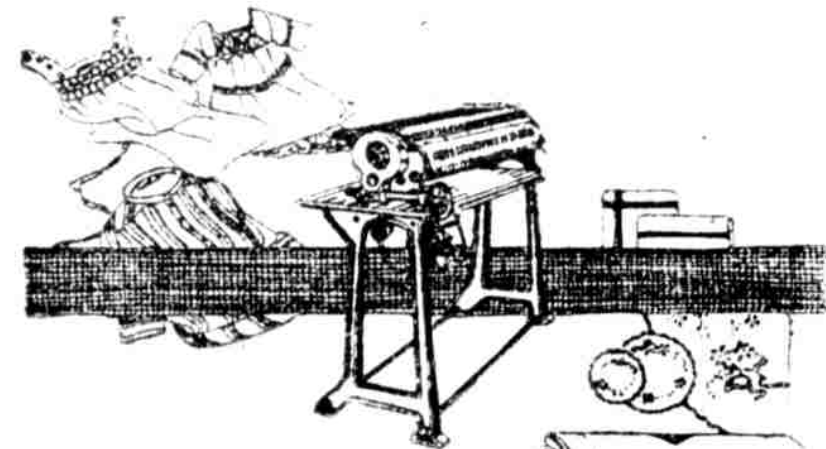
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