### EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER- PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1922



An Unusual Story of a Blackmailing Gang and a Mysterious Avenger, by the Author of "Green Rust," "The Daffodil Murder," "Clue of the Twisted Candle"

**HE** WAITED impatiently, chewing his cigar, until the dripping figure of the doorkeeper reappeared with the information that the car was at the end of the passage. He put up his un-brella and walked through the pelting rain to where his limousine stood. Pinto Silva was angry, and his anger

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was of the hateful, smoldering type which grows in strength from moment to moment and from hour to hour. How dare she treat him like this? She, who her engagement to his influence. and whose fortune and future were in his hands! He would speak to the nel, and the colonel could speak to solonel, and the colonel chaugh of this. He recognized with a start that he was afraid of the girl. It was incredible, but it was true. He had never that way about a woman before. but there was something in her eyes. a cold disdain, which cowed even as it maddened him.

The car drew up before a block buildings in a described West End thoroughfare. He flashed on the elec-tric light and saw that the hour was a little after eleven. The last thing in the world he wanted was to take part in a conference that night. But if he wanted anything less, it was to annoy the colonel at this moment of crisis. He walked through the dark vestibule and entered an automatic elevator. which carried him to the third floor. Here the landing and the corridor were illuminated by one small electric lamp, sufficient to light him to the heavy walnut doors which led to the office of the Spillsbury Syndicate. He opened the door with a latchkey and found himself in a big lobby, furnished in good style. A man was sitting before a radiator.

a paper pad upon his knees, and he was making notes with a pencil. He looked up, startled, as the other entered and nodded. It was Olaf Hanson, the colonel's clerk-and Olaf, with his hat. expressionless face and his stiff, upstanding hair, always reminded Pinto of a struwwelpeter which had been cropped

"Hello, Hanson. Is the colonel inside?

#### The man nodded.

"They're waiting for you." he said. His voice was hard and unsympathetic, and his thin lips snapped out every syllable. "Aren't you coming in?" asked

Pinto in surprise, his hand upon the door. The man called Hanson shook his

"I've got to go to the colonel's flat. he said. "to get some papers. Besides.

they don't want me.

"Everybody's hands in the air," said Jack. "For the Jack o' Judgment is among you and life is full of amazing possibilities" be influenced by the threat of publishing a slushy letter to a girl. I guess his trustees are not going to be very much "O" influenced either. On the other hand, if this letter were found among business Katherine Newlin Burt's newest lovel is both exciting and appenlingdocuments, it would look pretty bad for us." This well-known Philadelphia writer, author of "The Branding Iron" and "Snow-Blind," knows "Found by whom?" asked Pinto. "By the police," said the colonel calmly the West and its people deeply and 'Police?'' The colonel nodded. "They're getting after us, but you needn't be alarmed." he said. "King is working to get a case, and he is not intimately. In "Q" she has moved a fine, big-minded Westerner East and tells vividly his winning in love and life. On Monday begin to read and life. On Monday begin to read "Q"
ator I've ever seen. Why, when she talks\_\_\_\_\_

they don't want me." He smiled quickly and wanly. It was a grimace rather than an expression of amusement, and Pinto cyed him nar-rowly. He had, however, the good sense to ask no further questions. Turning the handle of the door, he walked into the large, ornate apart-walked into the large, ornate apart-

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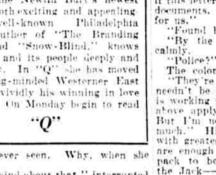
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walked into the large, ornate apartment.
In the center of the room was a big table, and the chairs at its side were.
for the most part, filled.
Be dropped into a sent on the colormel's right and nodded to the others at the table. Most of the principals were the double cross us, that fellow.
''I don't believe it.''
''I know Scionen and I've known in for years.'' he said: ''I know him for years.'' h



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"Listen! There was a matinee at the Orpheum today, and King went there, I followed him in and got a seat next to him and tried to be friendly. But to him and tried to be friendly. But he had only eyes for the girl on the stage, and I might as well have been the paper on the wall for all the notice be took of me. After her act he went nut and waited for her at the stage door. They went to Roymoyer's for ten. I went back to the theatre and saw her dre ser. She is the woman is the woman the set.