JACK O'JUDGMENT :-: By Edgar Wallace

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"

COLONEL DAN ROUNDARY. fat, corresponded but uncannily clever leader of a gang of crooks, has become leader of a gang of crooks, has become alarmed at receipt of a knave of clubs, signed "Jack of Judgment," after several signed to enrich him tetthout risking the lew's penalties. He tries to disarm suspicions pathering around him by complaining to

MAFFORD KING, of the London Criminal Intelligence Force.

PNTO BILVA. a sleek man about town, forces his attentions on an actress, who rebuffs him. She is the sleek man about town, she is the sleek man attention of the gang who wishes to retire, the is interested in Stafford. LOLLIE MARSH, a doll-faced but clever

ort, who days, maring pane.

CROUK CREWE, once a gentleman, now thick. AND HERE IT CONTINUES

TIE MADE a little bow, and for all his amusement Stafford gravely neknowledged the handsome compliment which the most notorious scoundrel in London had paid the metropolitan police

"When am I to see your chief." "You can come along with me now if you like, or you can go tomorrow morning at ten o'clock," said Stafford.

ing at ten o'clock," said Stafford.

The colonel scratched his chin.

"Of course, I understand that this summons is in the nature of a friendly—" He stopped questioningly.

"Oh. certainly," said Stafford, his gest twinkling; "it isn't the customary come-along-o'-me' demand. I think the clief wants to meet you, to discover just the kind of person you are. You will like him, I think, colonel. He to the sort of man who takes a tre-

You will like him, I think, colonel. He is the sort of man who takes a tremendous interest in—er—"In crime?" said the colonel gently.
"I was trying to think of a nice word to put in its place." admitted Stafford;

night. He's rather amusing. By the way, have you had complaints from anywhere else?"

Stafford shook his head. "No, he seems to have specialized en you, colonel. You have certainly the monopoly of his attentions."
"What is going to happen, supposing

he makes an appearance when I happen to have a lethal weapon rendy? asked the colonel. "I have never killed a person in my life, and I hope the sad experience will not be mine. But from the police point of view, how do I stand, the police point of the word and said of said

of your fellow countrymen will decide that you acted in self-defense." "He came the other night," the colonel said reminiscently, "when we were fixing up a particularly difficulter-business negotiation."
"Bad luck!" said Stafford. "I suppose the mug was scared?"
"The what?" asked the puzzled

"The mug." said Stafford, "You may not have heard the expression. It means 'can'—'fool'—'dupe.'



"I understand you're being both-ered by a mysterious individual!"

The colonel drew a long breath. You still bear malice, I see Mr.

King," he said sadly. He entered the portals of Scotland Yard without so much as a tremor, passed up the broad stairs and along the unlovely corridors, till he came to the double doors which marked the

the double doors which marked the first commissioner's private office. Stafford disappeared for a moment and presently returned with the news that the first commissioner would not be able to see his visitor for haif an hour. Stafford apologized, but the colonel was staffold apologized, but the colonel was affability itself and kept up a running affability and a running affability and a running affabilit disengaged.

"Sit down, colonel," he said, nodding had ideas and opinions, but none of the colonel. "Pinto will you find my hat?"

On the way to Scotland Yard they chatted on general subjects till Stafford

"Sit down, colonel," he said, nodding had ideas and opinions, but none of them has ever worked out. So far as I know he had no enemies, although he was a quick-tempered chap, want to speak to the colonel about."

When the door had closed behind the from a dose of cocaine, and mould consider the property of them has ever worked out. So far as I know he had no enemies, although he was a quick-tempered chap, want to speak to the colonel about."

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saked:

"Have you had another visitation from your friend?"

The Jack o' Judgment?" asked the colonel. "Yes, we met him the other the colonel. By the colonel the colonel the colonel to speak to the colonel about."

When the door had closed behind the from a dose of cocaine, and would quarrel with his own grandmother."

"You've no idea why he was in London? Apparently he did not live there."

The colonel shrugged his massive this eves.

"I've sent for you, colonel," he said,

"Command me," said the colonel grandly.

"It is on the matter of a murder which was committed in London a few years ago," said the commissioner quietly, and for a moment Colonel that you are being bothered by a mystarious individual who calls himself the Boundary did not speak.

'I presume you are referring to the Snow Gregory murder," he said at last.

'Exactly.' The commissioner nodcolonel with a cocolonel with

Snow Gregory murder," he said at last.

"Exactly." The commissioner nodded. "We have had an inquiry from America as to the identity of this young man. Now you knew him better than anybody else in London, colonel. Can you tell me, was he an American?"

"Emphatically not," said the colonel with a little sigh, as though he were relieved at the turn the conversation was taking. "I came to know him through—er—circumstances, and exactly what they were I cannot for the moment that on the body was found a playing card."

"That's right," said the colonel, who had remembered the fact himself many times. "The jack of clubs."

"Do you know what the jack of clubs."

the colonel slowly. "There was a story that he had been at Oxford, and that's very likely true. He spoke like a college man."

was executed at Nantes the other day invariably left a domino—the double-six—near his victim."

This was news to the colonel, too.

"I've been giving a great deal of

"Do you know if he had any rela-tions in England?" The commissioner eyed the other straitly, and the colonel hesitated. "How much does this man know?" he wondered, and decided that he could do no harm if he told all the truth.

"He had no relations in England,"

e alid. "but he had a father who was broad."

"Ah! Now we're getting at some acts," said the commissioner, and drew slip of paper toward him. "What as the father's name?"

The colonel shook his head.

"The colonel shook his head."

"The colonel shook his head." he nid. slip of paper toward him.

the colonel after a moment's thought.
"He got into some scrape at college "It is not my and was not graduated.

any easier for you." the commissioner was saying, "or to assist you in any way. But as the Jack o' Judgment way. But as the Jack o' Judgment seems to me to be engaged in a wholly illegal practice and as I, in my capaci-ty, must suppress illegal practices, I make you a present of this suggestion."

"None," said the colonel emphatiaffability itself and kept up a running conly. "I am certain of that, because conversation until a beckening secretary he once declared he was thankful that he met that the great man was he was the only child." "That is my suggestion," said the

into the commissioner's presence. Sir Stanley was writing at a big desk and looked up as the colonel entered.

"Sit down, colonel," he said, nodding had ideas and opinions, but none of them.

sioner's voice and by the consciousness of a new and a more terrible danger than any that had confronted him. He shoulders. "No; I couldn't tell you anything

rose, realizing that the interview was ended. "because I think you might give me a great deal of information if you're willing."

"He was not an Ame the commissioner again. "He was not an American?" asked "I am greatly obliged to you. Sir Stanley." he said, clearing his throat; "It is good of you to warn me, but I'd "I could swear to that," answered

There was a pause, and he waited. terious individual who calls himself the

"Jack o' Judgment," corrected the

what they were I cannot for the moment times. "The jack of clubs." remember. I had a lot to do with him. "Do you know what the jack of clubs the did odd jobs for me." "Do you know what the jack of clubs lignified?" asked the commissioner, but what they were I cannot for the moment the second state of the moment that remember. I had a lot to do with him. He did odd jobs for me."

"Was he well educated?" asked the commissioner. but the colonel could honestly say that he did not. Its presence on the body had frequently puzzled him and he had never

found a solution. "There is a certain type of ruffian to be found, particularly in Paris, who affects this sort of theatrical trade-mark. Did you know that?"

The colonel was suddenly stricken to silence. He did not know this fact, in spite of his extraordinary knowledge of the criminal world.

"These men have their totems and their sign manuals." said the commissioner tryly. As Stafford King came into the room he turned to him. "You might show the colonel the way to the street. Otherwise he will be getting himself entangled in some of our detention rooms. Good morning, Colonel Boundary. Don't forget."

"I'm not likely to." said the colonel. "These men have their totems and their sign manuals," said the commis-sioner: "for example, the apache who was executed at Nantes the other day

"I'm not likely to," said the colonel.

He recovered his poise quickly enough, and by the time he was in the street he was back in his old mood. But he had had a shock. That sunny afternoon was filled with shadows. The booming bells of Big Ben tolled "Jack or Judgment": the very wheels of the "I've been giving a great deal of thought and time to this old case," said the commissioner, "and I was hoping that perhaps you could help me. The most workable theory that I can suggest is that this unfortunate man suggest is that this unfortunate man was destroyed by a French criminal of the class which I have indicated, the bullying apache type, which is so comshaken.

There was nobody in save the one he passed into the dining room overlooking the street. He had work to do, and it had to be done quickly. In one of the walls was set a stout safe, and The colonel shook his head.

"That I can't tell you, sir," he said. "I should like to oblige you, but I have no more idea of what his name was than the man in the moon. I believe he was in India because letters from India used to come to Gregory."

"Was Gregory his name?"

"Was Gregory his name?"

"Was Gregory his name?"

"Was Gregory his name, I think," said the colonel did not raise his eyes from the colonel after a moment's thought. Then he proceeded to unlock the box. Apparently it was empty, but, taking out his scarfpin, he inserted the point in a tiny hole which would have escaped casual observation, and pressed. this he opened, taking from it a steel

Half the steel bottom of the box leaped up, disclosing a shallow cavity beneath. The colonel stared. There had been two letters put in there, let-ters which he had secreted until such time as it might be necessary to bring a recalcitrant agent to heel. They were "That the Jack o' Judgment is re-lated to Snow Gregory?" asked the colo-

He drew this out and looked at it licking his lips the while.

For the space of a minute he stared and stared at the knave of clubs he held in his hand, a knave of clubs signed ders.

"I think he is your greatest danger, colonel," he said; "far greater than the police, far greater than the clever minds which are planning to bring you to prison and possibly," he added, "to the gallows."

added, "to the gallows." with a flourish across its face: "Jack o' Judgment." Then he flung the card into the fire. and, walking to the sideboard, splashed whisky into a tumbler with a hand that shook.

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WANTED-COMPETENT MEN

THE DENVER AND RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

WILL EMPLOY COMPETENT MEN FOR RAILROAD SERVICE AS FOLLOWS: MACHINISTS BOILER MAKERS

"It is not my business to make life

The commissioner raised his shoul-

Ordinarily the colonel would have

protested at the suggestion in the speech, protested laughingly or with

lignity, but now he was stricken dumb, both by the seriousness of the commis-

ommissioner.

"And you think--"

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Service Talks

PHILADELPHIA RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY

No. 23

EVERY EMPLOYE A STOCKHOLDER

August 5, 1922

TEN YEARS UNDER MITTEN CO-OPERATIVE PLAN AT PHILADELPHIA

TO THE PUBLIC:

Street car service now generally acknowledged to be the best in point of adequacy, clean cars and courteous crews.

P. R. T. car riders have, since 1911, enjoyed a continuity of car service as against strike conditions of 1910 and earlier years. Philadelphia alone, among all the larger cities, enjoyed continuous car service during the war, uninterrupted by labor disturbances.

Continued street car service is assured, and the public saved from consequent loss incurred through service interruptions caused by strikes.

The Mitten Plan has well stood the test of over ten years vicissitudes and mutually satisfactory working conditions have been successfully maintained thereunder.

The basic principle of this plan as originally established, i. e., that employes may belong to any union or other organization without let or hindrance, continues to be the rock of its dependence and the disarming of its opponents. Co-operative effort is recognized as the keystone of all accomplishment, with ability rewarded by advancement as opportunity offers.

- P. R. T. employes wage rate is based upon the average of Cleveland, Detroit and Chicago, where unions control, thus insuring wages equal to those secured by organized labor.
- P. R. T. employes and their families are protected by sick benefits, pensions and a \$1,000 life insurance policy.
- P. R. T. employes stand almost alone in having saved from their increased wages during the war. Their co-operative saving fund, managed by trustees of their own selection, now contains more than \$1,700,000, safely invested in government and other standard securities and pays depositors 5% interest annually.
- P. R. T. employes, by super-co-operation, are effecting economies unapproached elsewhere, and are now receiving recognition therefor in the form of a co-operative wage dividend equaling 10% of the payroll. The total sum of this co-operative wage dividend has, by individual signature of practically every employe, been turned over to trustees, who have already so impressed themselves upon capital as to borrow \$1,000,000, to be repaid when the men receive their co-operative wage dividend. The trustees of the men have, with this money, financed the purchase of 50,000 shares of P. R. T. stock at an average of \$30 per share, which with a continuation of the present 6% dividend. earns for the men 10% per annum upon the total of \$1,500,000 so invested from the fruits of this Co-operative Plan.

TO THE OWNERS:

P. R. T. stock, par value \$30,000,000, with receivership threatened in 1911 now enjoys comparative prosperity embodied in the payment of 6% dividends annually, the continuation of which is assured by co-operation of men and management.

SERVICE TALKS

WHAT IS THE MITTEN PLAN?

The Mitten Co-operative Plan for adjusting the relations between employe and employer is based upon the fundamental principle that the successful running of a railway depends most upon the men who run it.

The plan recognizes the right of employes to bargain collectively upon all matters affecting their wages, working conditions and discipline. It provides uncontrolled election of wage workers' representatives of each branch group of employes, elected by and from among themselves by secret ballot. These, with an equal number of representatives appointed by the company, constitute:

FOR EMPLOYE

- 1. Branch Committees
- 2. Department Committees
- 3. General Committee

FOR EMPLOYER

- 1. Branch Committees
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- 3. General Committee

The Branch Committees serve as lower courts where local points of difference are for the most part settled on the spot.

All Branch Committeemen in each department come together as the Department Committees. Differences not settled in Branch Committees, and departmental questions, are carried to the respective Department Committees, as a higher court, where, by across-the-table discussion, local branch differences of opinion are adjusted to the broader viewpoint of the department as a unit.

The General Committees, with equal representation from all Department Committees, serve as a superior court for undecided questions and for the review of appeals. Here the broader questions of administration affecting the interests of all are considered.

Final arbitration—the supreme court—if needed, is assured through an Arbitration Board wherein the men and the management are each directly represented, while the public, which always finally pays, is given the decisive voice.

"We welcome the Golden Rule into business. Such remarkable experiments . . are inspiring demonstrations that full brotherhood in the industries is practicable and wonderfully successful. The greatest of all such Golden Rule companies is in our own city, the Mitten Management, Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, recently coming with victory out of its most trying crisis.

From Methodist Episcopal Church Committee's Report of March 28, 1922.