

The Exploits of Elaine

A Detective Novel and a Motion Picture Drama
By ARTHUR B. REEVE
The Well-Known Novelist and the Creator of the "Craig Kennedy" Stories

CONTINUED SYNOPSIS.

The New York police are mystified by a series of murders and other crimes. The principal clue to the criminal is the warning letter which is sent to the victims, signed with a "clutching hand." The latest victim of the mysterious assassin is Taylor Dodge, the insurance president. His daughter, Elaine, employs Craig Kennedy, the famous scientific detective, to unravel the mystery. What Kennedy accomplishes is told by his friend Jameson, a newspaper man. Enraged at the determined effort which Elaine and Craig Kennedy are making to put an end to his crimes, the Clutching Hand, as this strange criminal is known, resorts to all sorts of the most diabolical schemes to put them out of the way. Each chapter of the story tells of a new plot against their lives and of the way the great detective uses all his skill to save this pretty girl and himself from death.

NINTH EPISODE

THE DEATH RAY.

Kennedy was reading a scientific treatise one morning, while I was banging on the typewriter, when a knock at the laboratory door disturbed us. By some intuition Craig seemed to know who it was. He sprang to open the door, and there stood Elaine Dodge and her lawyer, Perry Bennett. Instantly Craig read from the startled look on Elaine's face that something dreadful had happened. "Why—what's the matter?" he asked, solicitously.

"A—another letter—from the Clutching Hand!" she exclaimed breathlessly. "Craig took the letter and we both read, with amazement:

"Are you an enemy of society? If not, place a vase of flowers in your laboratory window today.

"What shall we do?" queried Bennett, evidently very much alarmed at the letter.

"Do?" replied Kennedy, laughing contemptuously at the apparently futile threat. "Why, nothing. Just wait."

"How do you know?" I asked, looking up from my work. "What's that instrument you are using?"

"A bolometer, invented by the late Professor Langley," he replied, his attention riveted on it.

"Some time previously Kennedy had had installed on the window ledge one of those mirrorlike arrangements, known as a "busyboby," which show those in a room what is going on in the street.

"As I moved over to look at the bolometer I happened to glance into the "busyboby" and saw that a crowd was rapidly collecting on the sidewalk.

"Look, Craig!" I called hastily. He hurried over to me and looked. We could both see in the busybody mirror a group of excited passers-by bending over a man lying prostrate on the sidewalk.

"The excited crowd lifted him up and bore him away, and I turned in surprise to Craig. He was looking at his watch.

"It was now only a few moments past nine o'clock!

"I've just heard of the accident!" she cried, fearfully. "Isn't it terrible! What had we better do?"

"For a few moments no one said a word. Then Kennedy began carefully examining the bolometer and some other recording instruments he had, while the rest of us watched, fascinated.

"Somehow that "busyboby" seemed to attract me. I could not resist looking into it from time to time as Kennedy worked.

"I was scarcely able to control my excitement when again I saw the same scene enacted on the sidewalk before the laboratory. Hurriedly I looked at my watch. It was ten o'clock!

"Craig!" I cried. "Another!" Instantly he was at my side, gazing eagerly. There was a second innocent pedestrian lying on the sidewalk while a crowd, almost panic-stricken, gathered about him.

"It's no use," he muttered, as we gathered about him. "We're beaten. I can't stand this sort of thing. I will leave tomorrow for South America."

I thought Elaine Dodge would faint at the shock of his words coming so soon after the terrible occurrence outside. She looked at him speechless.

It happened that Kennedy had some artificial flowers on a stand, which he had been using long before in the study of synthetic coloring materials. Before Elaine could recover her tongue he seized them and stuck them into a tall beaker, like a vase. Then he deliberately walked to the window and placed the beaker on the ledge in a most prominent position.

Elaine and Bennett, to say nothing of myself, gazed at him, awe-struck. "Is—there no other way but to surrender?" she asked.

Kennedy mournfully shook his head. "I'm afraid not," he answered slowly. There's no telling how far a fellow who has this marvelous power might go. I think I'd better leave, to save you. He may not content himself with innocent outsiders always."

Nothing that any of us could say, not even the pleadings of Elaine herself, could move him. The thought that at eleven o'clock a third innocent passer-by might lie stricken on the street seemed to move him powerfully.

"I'm so sorry—Craig," murmured Elaine, choking back her emotion and finding it impossible to go on.

"So am I, Elaine," he answered, tensely. "But—perhaps—when this trouble blows over—"

He paused, unable to go on, turned and shook his head. Then with a forced gaiety he bade Elaine and Perry Bennett adieu, saying that perhaps a trip might do him good.

They had scarcely gone out, and Kennedy closed the door carefully, when he turned and went directly to the instrument which I had seen him observing so intently.

Plainly I could see that it was registering something. He walked fairly close to the window this time, keeping well out of the direct line of it, however, and there stood gazing out into the street.

"We are being watched," he said slowly, turning and looking at me fixedly, "but I don't dare investigate lest it cost the lives of more unfortunates."

He stood for a moment in deep thought. Then he pulled out a suitcase and began silently to pack it.

Although we had not dared to investigate, we knew that from a building across the street emissaries of the Clutching Hand were watching for our signal of surrender.

The fact was, as we found out later, that in a poorly furnished room, much after the fashion of that which, with the help of the authorities, we had once raided in the suburbs, there were at that moment two crooks.

One of them was the famous, or rather infamous, Professor LeCroix. The other was the young secretary of the Clutching Hand.

This was the new headquarters of the master criminal, very carefully guarded.

"Look!" cried LeCroix, very much excited by the effect that had been produced by his infra-red rays. "There is the sign—the vase of flowers. We have got him this time!"

LeCroix gleefully patted a peculiar instrument beside him. Apparently it was a combination of powerful electric arcs, the rays of which were shot through a funnel-like arrangement into a converted or, rather, a sort of concentration apparatus from which the dread power could be released through a tubelike affair at the end. It was his infra-red heat wave, F-ray, engine.

"I told you it would work!" cried LeCroix.

I did not argue any further with Craig about his sudden resolution to go away. But it is a very solemn proceeding to pack up and admit defeat after such a brilliant succession of cases as had been his until we met this master criminal.

He was unshakable, however, and the next morning we closed the laboratory and loaded our baggage into a taxicab.

Neither of us said much, but I saw a quick look of appreciation on Craig's face as we pulled up at the wharf and saw that Elaine's car was already there. He seemed deeply moved that Elaine should come at such an early hour to have a last word.

Our car stopped, and Kennedy moved over toward her car, directing two porters, whom I noticed that he chose with care, to wait at one side. One of them was an Irishman with a slight limp; the other a wiry Frenchman with a pointed beard.

In spite of her pleadings, however, Kennedy held to his purpose, and as we shook hands for the last time I thought that Elaine would almost break down.

We finally tore ourselves away, followed by the porters carrying as much as they could.

"Bon voyage!" called Elaine, bravely keeping back a choke in her voice. Near the gangplank, in the crowd, I noticed a couple of sinister faces watching the ship's officers and the passengers going aboard. Kennedy's quick eye spotted them, too, but he did not show in any way that he noticed anything as, followed by our two



"Bon Voyage," Cried Elaine, Bravely porters, we quickly climbed the gangplank.

"In there," pointed Kennedy, quickly to the porters, indicating our stateroom, which was an outer room. "Come, Walter."

I followed him in with a heavy heart.

Outside could be seen the two sinister faces in the crowd watching intently, with eyes fixed on the stateroom. Finally one of the crooks boarded the ship hastily, while the other watched the two porters come out of the stateroom and pause at the window, speaking back into the room as though answering commands.

Then the porters quickly ran along the deck and down the plank to get the rest of the luggage.

They took a small, but very heavy box and, lugging and tugging, hastened toward the boat with it. But they were too late. The gangplank was being hauled in.

They shouted, but the ship's officers waved them back.

The porters argued. But it was no use. All they could do was to carry the box back to the Dodge car.

Miss Dodge was just getting in as they returned.

"What shall we do with this and the other stuff?" asked the Irish porter.

She looked at the rest of the tagged luggage and the box which was marked:

Scientific Instruments Valuable Handle With Care!

"Here—pile them in there," she said, indicating the taxicab. "I'll take care of them."

Meanwhile one of our sinister-faced friends had just had time to regain the shore after following us aboard ship and strolling past the window of our stateroom. He paused long enough to observe one of the occupants studying a map, while the other was opening a bag.

"They're gone!" he said to the other as he rejoined him on the dock, giving a nod of his head and a jerk of his thumb at the ship.

"Yes," added the other crook, "and lost most of their baggage, too."

Slowly the car proceeded through the streets up from the river front, followed by the taxicab, until at last the Dodge mansion was reached.

Elaine sighed moodily as she walked slowly in.

"Here, Marie," she cried petulantly to her maid, "take these wraps of mine."

A moment later Aunt Josephine left her and Elaine went into the library and over to a table. She stood there an instant, then sank down into a chair, taking up Kennedy's picture and gazing at it with eyes filled with tears.

Just then Jennings came into the room, ushering the two porters laden with the boxes and bags.

"Where shall I have them put these things, Miss Elaine?" he inquired.

"Oh—anywhere," she answered hurriedly, replacing the picture.

Jennings paused. As he did so, one of the porters limped forward.

"I've a message for you, miss," he said in a rich Irish brogue, with a look at Jennings, "to be delivered in private."

Elaine glanced at him surprised. Then she nodded to Jennings, who disappeared. As he did so, the Irishman limped to the door and drew together the porters.

Then he came back closer to Elaine. A moment she looked at him, not quite knowing from his strange actions whether to call for help or not.

At a motion from Kennedy, as he pulled off his wig, I pulled off the little false beard.

Elaine looked at us, transformed, startled.

"Wh—what?" she stammered. "Oh—I'm—so—glad. How—"

Keeping Back a Choke in Her Voice. wig. The same sort of exchange of clothes was made by me, and Craig clapped a Vandyke beard on my chin."

To Be Continued

TWO CHILLS FOR SUNDAY

Neither Audience of the Day Warm Up to His Efforts Paterson, N. J., April 14.—If Billy Sunday were a superstitious person—which he isn't—he probably would feel that Tuesday is his jinx day. It doesn't seem that he can fan the hard-hitting devil on that particular section of the week. Although he had good audiences both afternoon and evening and the collections were of respectable size, there did not seem to be much reviving done.

Billy spoke to 13,000 persons, and \$13.38 was taken in. But his own vim, vigor, vinegar and pepper seemed to be lacking, and neither of his assemblages warmed up to him. He raised only three or four laughs and a couple of outbursts of applause in the afternoon, and his night response was but little better.

DYNAMITE FOR FAMILY

Writer of Threatening Letter Blows Up Their Building Towanda, Pa., April 14.—John Lenzo's grocery store at Mildred was dynamited Monday night, the entire front being blown away, and every business place in the village was badly damaged. The Lenzo family, asleep in the rooms over the store, were blown from their beds, but escaped injuries.

The dynamiting followed a threat from a man who said he would blow up the store unless he was given money. He has disappeared. Lenzo is a wealthy Italian.

Curwensville Is Made "Wet" Clearfield, April 14.—Curwensville borough, which has been "dry" for the last year, was made "wet" yesterday, when Judge Singleton Bell granted retail licenses to Thomas Casey for the Central hotel and S. Dorsey Griffith for the Park hotel. The applications had been held over since license court, nearly two months ago.

Willard Cannot Box on Stage New York, April 14.—Permission was sought yesterday by Jack Curley, on behalf of Jess Willard, to have the world's champion put on the gloves and spar with his partners on the stage at Hammerstein's, where Willard is appearing. The State Athletic Commission heard the plan of Curley and then reiterated its refusal to permit the fighter to box on any stage. Curley was told that if Willard desires to box he must conform to the rules of the commission, and that means in the arena of a club having a proper license from the State.

Academy Relay Trial Friday Relay trials at the Harrisburg Academy will be held Friday in preparation for the competition in the Penn relay games on Franklin field. The Harrisburg team drew the post for its event.

Holtzman Team to Bowl The Americans and Federals will meet on the Holtzman alleys to decide the championship of the Holtzman league. The Federals have a lead of two games and the Americans will have to take four of the proposed six games in the championship series to cop the pennant.

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Postmasters for Pennsylvania Washington, April 14.—Mrs. Alice M. Boner was reappointed postmistress at Gilberton, and Percy J. Weygandt was appointed postmaster at Elk City, Pa.

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ASK FOR Lancaster's Favorite Brew

RIEKER'S BEER

JNO. G. WALL, Agt. Harrisburg, Pa. Frank J. Rieker, Mgr.

See "Exploits of Elaine," Ninth Episode, In Motion Pictures, Victoria Theatre, Saturday, April 17 READ THE STORY IN THE STAR-INDEPENDENT EVERY WEEK

NEW HOTEL Broad & Locust Philadelphia

Stations, points of interest. In the Center of Everything Re-modeled—Re-decorated—Re-furnished. European plan. Every convenience.

Rooms, without bath \$1.50 Rooms, with bath \$2.00 Hot and cold running water in all rooms.

We are especially equipped for Conventions. Write for full details. WALTON HOTEL CO. Louis Walton, President-Manager

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD

4 NEW MANAGERS TO-DAY

Bresnahan, Moran, Rowland and Donovan Make Bow to Baseball Public

New York, April 14.—The call of "play" sounded to-day for two major leagues of organized baseball. Despite the war among nations abroad and the continuation of strife between divergent baseball interests at home, big league magnates last night expressed belief that the coming season would be a successful one for the game.

New managers in two cities in each league made their bows to-day. In the National League Roger Bresnahan will lead the Chicago Cubs on the diamond, while "Pat" Moran will perform a similar office in Philadelphia. In the American League Clarence Rowland will appear as the new manager of the Chicago White Sox and William Donovan will begin the tutelage of the New York, in what their friends hope will be an upward course.

MERCERSBURG WINS Trainmen's A. C., of Harrisburg, Loses to Academy Nine

Mercersburg, Pa., April 14.—Yesterday afternoon the Mercersburg Academy baseball team defeated the Trainmen A. C. of Harrisburg, 4 to 1. Both sides played loose ball at times. A batting rally in the seventh inning netted the home team three runs, thus securing the game. The score:

TRAINMEN A. C. R. H. O. A. E. Williamson, ss 1 2 1 0 1 Eveler, p 0 0 0 3 1 Bennett, 1b 0 8 0 1 1 Kirk, 3b 0 0 1 1 0 Hippensteel, 2b 0 0 1 1 0 Lawler, c 0 0 10 3 0 Garland, lf 0 0 0 0 1 Behm, if 0 0 0 0 0 Gaverich, rf 0 0 0 0 0 Breach, cf 0 0 0 0 0 Totals 1 21 8 4

MERCERSBURG R. H. O. A. E. Eberly, 2b 1 0 1 1 0 Rupp, ss 2 1 1 3 0 Bennett, c 0 2 11 1 0 Moore, cf, 3b 1 1 0 0 0 Sidler, p 0 0 0 4 0 Preek, rf 0 1 1 1 0 Lungren, 1b 1 0 10 0 0 Mahaffey, cf 0 0 0 1 0 Hopkins, 3b 0 0 0 1 0 Blaine, lf 0 2 0 0 0 Totals 4 7 24 11 0 Trainmen A. C. 0 0 0 0 1 0—1 Mercersburg 0 0 0 0 1 3—4

Two-base hits, Williamson, Bennett, Struckout, by Eveler, 10; Sidler, 9. Sacrifice hits, Eberly, Hopkins. Hit by pitcher, Breach. Time, 1:40. Umpire, Wells.

More Trouble for Jack Johnson New York, April 14.—More trouble piled up for Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion, when the Supreme Court yesterday afternoon granted an execution of a judgment for \$3,679 in favor of Barney Gerard. Gerard obtained a judgment against the fighter in Milwaukee in 1913, when he accused Johnson of forcing him to pay \$2,250 before the negro would go on with a show in a Milwaukee theatre for which tickets had been sold.

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FEDERAL LEAGUE

Buffalo, 5; Brooklyn, 4 At Brooklyn— R. H. E. Buffalo 5 8 4 Brooklyn 4 3 5 Schultz and Allen; Bluejacket, Seaton and Land.

Newark, 3; Baltimore, 1 At Baltimore— R. H. E. Newark 3 7 1 Baltimore 1 7 1 Mullin and Huhn; Bender and Owens.

St. Louis Blanks Kanfeds At Kansas City— R. H. E. St. Louis 3 9 3 Kansas City 0 5 1 Groom and Hartley; Henning and Easterly.

Pittfeds Lose Again At Chicago— R. H. E. Pittsburgh 5 9 3 Chicago 6 5 4 Allen, Leclair, Camnitz and O'Connor; Johnson, McConnell and Wilson, Fisher.

BASE BALL SUMMARY STANDING OF THE TEAMS

Federal League W. L. Pct. Newark 3 0 1.000 Chicago 2 0 1.000 Brooklyn 2 1 .667 Kansas City 2 2 .500 St. Louis 1 1 .500 Buffalo 1 2 .300 Pittsburgh 1 2 .250 Baltimore 0 3 .000

AMATEUR BASEBALL The Hassler A. C. will practice this evening at 6:30 o'clock on Island Park.

A. C. Keel, manager of the Enola Country Club team, is anxious to arrange games with fast amateur teams. Troop No. 4, Boy Scouts, have organized a baseball team for the coming season. George Shreiner, 900 North Seventeenth street, scoutmaster, is the manager.

Candidates for the Eagle A. C. are requested to report for practice this evening at 6 o'clock on Island Park grounds.

Juniors Win Close Game The Juniors defeated the Seniors by the score of 32 to 27 in a Teah interclass basketball game yesterday afternoon. The lineup:

Seniors. Juniors. Steward F Killingier Crane F Evans Flickinger C Beck Beach G Miller Tittle G Yoffee

Field goals, Seniors, Steward, 4; Flickinger, 4; Beach, 2; Crane, Tittle; Juniors, Killingier, 3; Beck, 3; Miller, 2; Yoffee, 1. Foul goals, Miller, 14 of 27; Flickinger, 2 of 9; Stewart, 1 of 3. Referee, Grubb. Timer, Scheffer. Scorer, Lloyd. Time, 20-minute halves.

Harrisburgers in National Tourney The scores of the Harrisburgers who participated in the National bowling tournament in New York Monday follow:

Individuals A. Black 191 181 214— 586 Ross 153 157 156— 465 Jacoby 134 121 140— 395

Two-Man Team Jacoby 150 149 182— 481 Ross 189 140 150— 479 Totals 339 280 332— 960

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RADNOR THE NEW ARROW COLLAR

BOWLING RESULTS

CASINO INDEPENDENTS Nobles cop flag by winning three games from Cardinals—

ACHENBACH, 175 180 200— 555 NORRIS, 179 141 179— 499 ARNSBERGER, 155 201 171— 527 LEAMAN, 152 134 130— 416 GEORGER, 203 181 171— 535 Totals .. 864 817 851—2532

NOBLES KOZEL, 150 203 179— 572 MARTIN, 191 175 198— 564 LIGHTNER, 172 133 170— 495 SCHMIDT, 140 187 222— 550 SHOOTER, 218 159 178— 555 Totals .. 911 877 948—2736

HOLTZMAN LEAGUE Easy victory for Federals—

FEDERALS MAIL, 90 109 136— 335 DEISERTH, 103 82 94— 279 RAPP, 81 117 85— 263 BANKS, 96 115 114— 325 BARBER, 128 146 104— 378 Totals .. 498 569 533—1600

TRI-STATERS J. BRANCA, 83 77 105— 265 SIMM, 90 97 96— 283 MARTIN, 88 77 86— 251 WIEN, 107 89 88— 280 WILSON, 120 69 80— 269 Totals .. 488 409 454—1351

\$3.00 to New York and return via Reading Railway, Sunday, April 18.—

WOULD LINE UP THE BABIES

Police Commissioner Favors Traffic Rules for Carriages Elizabeth, N. J., April 14.—"Traffic regulation: Baby