

the eminent dopester of crimes and

ponies, can now take a luxurious

vacation. He's the possessor of

thirty-six hundred and forty dollars

-of which thirty-six dollars and

"I'm frightfully sorry, mater,"-

her son groped for words-"but

to dissuade him, but it was no

lyzing sound, like a pistol shot,

Vance was the first on his feet.

His face was grim as he moved rap-

idly toward the archway. I followed

room get up and move forward.

frightened eyes staring at us.

Graem opened the den door.

her otherwise placid face.

may be needed."

His voice trailed off.

sisted Mrs. Garden.

broke the tense silence.

her chair.

go . . .

her.

And Woode, of course . . .'

#### SYNOPSIS

Philo Vance, famous detective, and John F. X. Markham, district attorney for New York county, are dining in Vance's apartment when Vance receives an anonymous telephone message informing him of a "disturbing psychological tension at Professor Ephriam Garden's apartment" advising that he read up on radio-active sodium, consult a passage in the Aeneid and counseling "Equanimity is essential." Pro fessor Garden is famous in chemical research. The message, decoded by Vance, reminds him that Professor Garden's son Floyd and his puny cousin Woode Swift, are addicted to horse-racing. Vance says that "Equanimity" is a horse running next day in the Rivermont handicap. Vance is convinced that the message was sent by Dr. Siefert, the Gardens' family physician. He ar-Gardens' penthouse. Vance is greeted by Floyd Garden and meets Lowe Hammle, an elderly follower of horse racing. Floyd expresses concern over Swift's queer actions. Mrs. Garden, supposedly ill, comes downstairs and places a \$100 bet on a horse. Gathered around an elaborate loud speaker service, listening to the racing are Cecil Kroon Madge Weatherby and Zalia Graem who bet varying amounts on the race. There is tension under the surface gaiety. Zalia and Swift are not on speaking terms. Kroon leaves to keep an appointment before the race starts. Miss Beeton, a nurse, and Vance bet on "Azure Star." Swift recklessly bets \$10.-000 on "Equanimity" and goes to the roof garden to hear the results. Floyd follows Swift, remaining away several minutes. Zalia answers a phone call in

### CHAPTER III-Continued

As the radio tubes warmed up, McElroy's well-known voice gained in volume over the loud speaker: . . . and Equanimity is now

making trouble at the post. Took the cue from Head Start . . . Now they're both back in their stallsit looks as if we might get a-Yes! They're off! And to a good even start. Hyjinx has dashed into the lead; Azure Star comes next; and stepped quickly out into the garden. Heat Lighting is close behind. The others are bunched. I can't tell one

THE FRONTIER, O'NEILL, NEBRASKA,

ly toward the door to the passage- his fingers, and it swung inward way. Only Garden remained behind. "Is there a telephone up here?"

Vance asked. "Yes, certainly," replied Garden. here's one in the study." Garden brushed past us with nervous energy, as if glad of the

opportunity for action. He threw open the door at the end of the passageway and stood aside for us to enter the study., "Over there," he said, pointing to the desk at the far end of the room, on which stood a hand tele-

phone. "That's an open line. No connection with the one we use for the ponies, though it's an extension of the phone in the den." He stepped swiftly behind the des's and threw a black key on the switch box that was attached to the side of the desk. "By leaving the key in this position, you are disconnected from the extension downstairs, so that you have

complete privacy." "Oh, quite," Vance nodded with a faint smile. "I use the same system in my own apartment. Thanks awfully for your thoughtfulness . . . forty cents goes to our dear nurse downstairs and try to keep things balanced for a little while-there's a good fellow."

"What did Woody do?" demanded Mrs. Garden, sitting up stiffly in good grace and went toward the

"Oh, by the way, Garden," Vance called after him, "I'll want a little Woody didn't use his head. I tried chat with you in private, before long.' Garden turned, a troubled look on

"Well, what did Woody do?" perhis face. "I suppose you'll be wanting me Garden hesitated, and before he could formulate an answer, a para-

you're ready for me you've only to press that buzzer on the bookshelves there, just behind the desk." He indicated a white push-button set flush in the center of a small

him, and just behind came Garsquare japanned box on the upright den. As I turned into the hallway I saw the others in the drawing-As we hurried down the hall Zalia "What was that?" she asked, her "We don't know yet," Var.ce told In the bedroom door, at the lower end of the hall, stood the nurse, with a look of inquiring concern on "You'd better come along, Miss Beeton," Vance said, as he started up the stairs two at a time. "You Vance swung into the upper corridor and stopped momentarily at the door on the right, which led out upon the roof. This door was still



slowly and ponderously. "Deuced queer," he commented. 'A vault for preserving valuable documents-and the door unlocked.

### CHAPTER IV

The lights from the hall shone into the dark recess of the vault, and as Vance pushed the door further

inward a white cord hanging from a ceiling light became visible. To the end of this cord was attached a miniature brass pestl, which acted as a weight. Vance stepped immediately inside and jerked the cord, and the vault was flooded with light. "Vault" hardly describes this small storeroom, except that the walls were unusually thick, and it had obviously been constructed to serve as a burglar-proof repository. The room was about five by seven feet, and the ceiling was as high

I wonder . . ."

as that of the hallway. The walls were lined with deep shelves from floor to ceiling, and these were piled with all manner of papers, docu-And now please join the others ments, pamphlets, filing cases, and racks of test-tubes and vials labeled with mysterious symbols. Three of the shelves were devoted to a se-

Garden took his dismissal with ries of sturdy steel cash and security boxes. The floor was overlaid with small squares of black and white ceramic tile.

Although there was ample room for us both inside the vault, I remained in the hallway, watching Vance as he looked about him.

Vance leaned over and picked up a batch of scattered typewritten pato rattle all the family skeletons for pers which had evidently been you? But that's all right. When brushed down from one of the shelves directly opposite the door. He glanced at them for a moment and carefully replaced them in the empty space on the shelf. "Rather interestin', this dis-

array," he observed.

"The professor was obviously not the last person in here, or he would certainly not have left his papers on the floor . . ." He wheeled about. "My word!" he exclaimed in a low tone. "These fallen papers and that unlatched door . . . It could be, don't y' know." There was a sup-

pressed excitement in his manner. "I say, Van, don't come in here; and, above all, don't touch this doorknob.'

He knelt down on the tiled floor ing them. His action reminded me of the way he had inspected the til- differences are due to the way in ing on the roof near the chair in which we had found young Swift. different parts of the body. An even It occurred to me that he was seekin the garden.

mured. "It would explain many meat on an economical basis. outline of a workable pattern . . . After searching about for a minute or two, he stopped abruptly and leaned forward eagerly. Then he took a small piece of paper from his pocket and adroitly flicked something onto it from the floor. Folding the paper carefully, he tucked



### IODINE IS NEEDED BY EARLY CHICKS

#### **Common Feeds May Not** Have Proper Amount.

Iodine is necessary for chicks, but is needed only in very small amounts, according to a writer in the Wisconsin Agriculturist. Common feeds such as oyster shell, grains, etc., will usually supply all of the iodine that the chicks need but as a precaution it is desirable to add very small amounts to the ration. This can be done easily by using an iodized stock salt. Certain sea weeds and some of the fish meal preparations are quite abundantly supplied with iodine but repeated trials have not shown any advantage for these materials. Ordinary mixtures apparently contain all the iodine that chicks need so it is not necessary to bring in the high priced products that are rich in iodine nor is it necessary to put iodine tablets in the drinking water.

For many years leg weakness, or rickets, has been the most serious difficulty in raising chicks. The addition of mineral feeds such as limestone grit and raw bone grits increases the amount of bone building minerals so that early chicks can be grown for the first few weeks without sunshine or any other source of vitamin D, but no mineral combination has as yet been discovered that makes it possible to raise normal inside chicks unless vitamin D is added. Three generations of inside chicks were raised without difficulty when vitamin D was added to the ration fortified with mineral in the form of limestone grit and raw bone.

## How the Feed Produces

**Different Meat Quality** Each of the basic cereals-corn, wheat, oats, and barley - if and began a close inspection of the fed alone, produces a different qual- heart and you can't go wrong. is most becoming and it serves small squares, as if he were count- ity in the meat of poultry, says a This little wardrobe nicety will which the fat is produced in the distribution of fat throughout the ing here what he had failed to find body, flesh and skin, is essential to high quality. The mixed cereals, "It should be here," he mur- plus milk, produce a high quality



more enthusiastic than ever after making realities of these three new styles. Each is truly a delightful fashion and best of all there's something for every size in the family-from the "little bear" right on up.

an option on a little portion of this flattering fashion is to step your heart right now. Fair blithely into the realm of high writer in the Montreal Herald. Such serve you becomingly and well. trast. The sleeve length is op-It will add to your comfort too. Make it of broadcloth, gingham, sateen or chintz for prettiness and easy maintenance. There is a just the sort of spicy contrast one likes in informal apparel. This pattern is designed for sizes

Pattern 1997 is the smartly final word in style and charm is. styled smock that probably has any woman's language. To don enough, follow the dictates of your fashion. The soft feminine collar as an excellent medium for contional. Slender lines are the main feature of the skirt and a very pleasant effect results from the wide and handsome flare. Satin choice of long or short sleeves or sheer wool would most assuredand the shiny gold buttons offer | ly win your friends' approval and things-it would form the first vague The character and amount of the Available for sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52. Size 38 requires 4% yards of

from the other yet. Wait a second. Here they come past us-and it's Hyjinx on top now, by two lengths; and behind her is Train Time; andyes, it's Sublimate, by a head, or a nose, or a neck-it doesn't matter-it's Sublimate anyway. And there's Risky Lad creeping up on Sublimate . . . And now they're going round the fist turn, with Hyjinx still in the lead. The relative positions of the ones out front haven't changed yet . . . They're in the back stretch, and Hyjinx is still ahead by half a length; Train Time has moved up and holds his second position by a length and a half ahead of Roving Flirt, who's in third place. Azure Star is a length behind Roving Flirt. Equanimity revolver. is pocketed."

At this point in the broadcast Zalia Graem appeared suddenly in the archway and stood with her eyes fixed on the radio, her hands sunk in the pockets of her tailored jacket.

. . . They're rounding the far turn. Equanimity has improved his position and is getting into his fa- putting his arm about her, half led mous stride. Hyjinx has dropped back and Roving Flirt has taken the lead by a head, with Train oning motion of his head to Miss Time second, by a length, in front Beeton. of Azure Star, who is running third and making a grand effort . . . And now they're in the stretch. Azure Star has come to the front and is a full length in the lead. Train Time is making a great bid for this classic and is still in second place, a length behind Azure Star. Roving Flirt is right behind him. Hyjinx has dropped back and it looks as if she was no longer a serious contender. Equanimity is pressing hard and is now in sixth the tiling and seemed to be searchplace. He hasn't much time, but ing for something. Apparently he he's running a beautiful race and did not find what he sought, for he den. The rattan chair with its gruemay come up front yet. . . . And here they come to the finish. The leaders are straight out - there won't be much change. Just a second. Here they come . . . and . . the winner is Azure Star by two lengths. Next is Roving Flirt. And a length behind him is Train Time. Upper Shelf finished fourth . . ."

"Not such a hot race," Miss Graem remarked with a toss of Mr. Vance?" asked Mrs. Garden in her head. "I'll just about break even . . . Now I'll go and finish this thing as quiet as possible . . my phone call." And she turned My poor Woody!" back down the hall.

Garden seemed ill at ease and, for the second time that afternoon, Vance spoke with earnest sigmixed himself a highball.

into the room.

"Don't tell me I'm too late!" she pleaded excitedly.

"All over but the O. K., mater," Garden informed her. "And what did I do?" The wom-

wearily into an empty chair.

"The usual," grinned Garden. "A Grand Score? Your noble steed didn't score at all. Condolences. this is not a case of suicide But it's not official yet. We'll be It's murder!" getting the O. K. in a minute now." despondently.

ot wholly unexpected. the low chair which he had pointed out to us earlier that afternoon, sat Woode Swift, slumped down, with his head thrown back at an unnatural angle against the rattan head-rest, and his legs straight out before him. He still wore the earphone. His eyes were open and staring: his lips were slightly parted; and his thick glasses were tilted

propped open, and after a hasty

preliminary survey through it, he

The sight that met our eyes was

forward on his nose. In his right temple was a small ugly hole beneath which two or three drops of already coagulating blood had formed. His right arm hung limp over the side of the chair, and on the colored tiling just under his hand lay a small pearl-handled

Vance immediately approached the motionless figure, and the rest of us crowded about him. Zalia Graem, who had forced her way forward and was now standing beside Vance, swayed suddenly and caught at his arm. Her face had gone pale, and her eyes appeared glazed. Vance turned quickly and, and half carried her to a large wicker divan nearby. He made a beck-

"Look after her for a moment," he requested. "And keep her head think you'd better come immedidown." Then he returned to Swift. "Every one please keep back," he ordered. "No one is to touch him."

He took out his monacle and adjusted it carefully. Then he leaned over the crumpled figure in the chair. He cautiously scrutinized the wound, the top of the head, and the tilted glasses. When this examination was over he knelt down on stood up with a discouraged frown and faced the others.

"Dead," he announced, in an unwontedly sombre tone. "I'm taking charge of things temporarily." For a brief moment Vance stood in thought. Then: "You will all be

so good as to go downstairs and remain there until further orders." "But what are you going to do, a frightened tone. "We must keep button in the buzzer box and de-

"I'm afraid, madam, we shall not be able to keep it quiet at all."

nificance. "My first duty will be to minute or two had passed without Just then Mrs. Garden bustled telephone the district attorney and any response to his summons, ly. the homicide bureau." Mrs. Garden gasped.

follow. "The district attorney? The Homicide bureau?" she repeated distractedly. "Oh, no! . . . Why must

life." Vance shook his head slowly. "I regret madam," he said, "that

. . .

"Oh, dear!" sighed Mrs. Garden nouncement there was a sudden si- had last been shut. Vance pushed preferred list through letters, cirlence. Every one moved reluctant- on the door gently with the tips of culars and even elaborate booklets. the Country Home Magazine.

"Rather Interesting, This Disarray," He Observed.

between two sections of the bookshelves. "That's part of the intercommunicating system between this

room and the den. I'll see that the den door is left open, so that I can hear the buzz wherever I am." Vance nodded curtly, and Garden, after a momentary hesitation,

turned and went from the room. As soon as Garden could be heard making his way down the stairs. Vance closed the door and went immediately to the telephone. A mo-

ment later he was speaking to Markham. "The galloping horses, old dear," he said. "The Trojans are riding roughshod. Equanimity was needed, but came in too far behind. Result, a murder. Young Swift is

dead. And it was as clever a performance as I've yet seen . . . No. Markham,"-his voice suddenly became grave-"I'm not spoofing. I ately. And notify Sergeant Heath. if you can reach him, and the medi-

cal examiner." He replaced the receiver slowly. "This is a subtle crime, Van," he meditated. "Too subtle for my

don't at all like it. And I don't on: like this intrusion of horse-racing. Sheer expediency . . . " He went thoughtfully to the north window and looked out on the garsome occupant could not be seen

from the study, as it was far to sixth." the left of the window, near the west balustrade.

"I wonder . . ." He turned from the window abruptly and came back to the desk. "A few words with the colorless Garden are indicated, before the

minions of the law arrive." He placed his finger on the white pressed it for a second. Then he went to the door and opened it.

Several moments went by, but Garpressed the button. After a full self, did he?"

Vance started down the passageway to the stairs, beckoning me to

As he came to the vault door on the right, he halted abruptly. He

it away in his waistcoat pocket. Although I was only a few feet from him and was looking directly at him, I could not see what it was that he had found.

"I think that will be all for the moment," he said, rising and pulling the cord to extinguish the light. Coming out into the hallway, he closed the vault door by carefully grasping the shank of the knob. Then he moved swiftly down the passageway, stepped through the door to the garden, and went directly to the dead man. Though his

took the folded paper from his waistcoat pocket and opened it. He glanced repeatedly from the paper in his hand to the limp figure in the chair. At length he nodded his head emphatically, and rejoined me

in the hallway. We descended the stairs to the apartment below. Just as we reached the lower hall, the front door opened and Cecil Kroon entered. He seemed surprised to find us in the hall, and asked somewhat vaguely, as

he threw his hat on a bench: "Anything the matter?"

Vance studied him sharply and peace of mind. I don't like it-I made no answer; and Kroon went ing colds and it can be used lib-

"I suppose the big race is over, damn it! Who won it-Equanimity?" Vance shook his head slowly, his eyes fixed on the other. "Azure Star won the race. I be-

lieve Equanimity came in fifth or Farmer. "And did Woody go in on him up

to the hilt, as he threatened?" Vance nodded. "I'm afraid he

did." "Good Gad!" Kroon caught his breath. "That's a blow for the chap. How's he taking it?" He looked away from Vance as if he would rather not hear the answer. "He's not taking it," Vance re-

turned quietly. "He's dead." "No!" Kroon sucked in his breath with a whistling sound, and his eyes den did not appear, and Vance again slowly contracted. "So he shot him-

Vance's eyebrows went up slight-

(TO BE CONTINUED)

### Early Counterfeit Money

In the United States between 1880 and 1890, apparently thousands of you do that? Surely, any one can scrutinized the heavy calamine small town "slickers" bought and It is believed that there are 400,000,an came forward and dropped see that the poor boy took his own door for a moment or two. At passed counterfeit money, says a first glance it seemed to be closed writer in Collier's Weekly. One Reed American farms and that the avertightly, but as I looked at it more Waddell, operating in New York. closely, I noticed that it was open made \$250,000 during this decade by a fraction of an inch, as if the spring selling "green goods" throughout hens that bring the average down. catch, which locked it automatical- the country at the rate of \$12 for \$1. Following Vance's unexpected an- ly, had failed to snap when the door boldly advertising his currency to a population, before and after they are hatched, will be of value, says

rations fed will largely influence the gains in live weight. The amount of protein in the ration does not necessarily indicate the value in possible live weight gains to be made. Neither does the amount of fat in the average fattening ration supply all the fat produced on the bird fed. It is common knowledge that the large deposits of fat which occur in the animal body must owe their formation, in a large part, to other constituents of the feed than the fat content. In many finishing rations the low fat content cannot account for the high percentage of fat in the finished carcass. Recent biochemical work has shown that certain of the decomposition products of carbohydrates may be utilized in this synthesis of fat. The carbohydrate of the ration, in excess of that used for immediate back was turned to me as he bent heat and energy, is converted to over the figure, I could see that he fat and stored in deposits for later utilization.

#### Watch Drafts

necessary that the farm poultryman take particular precautions to avoid drafts in pullet and laying houses. If the birds come into the house wet and are crowded, drafts are practically sure to result in fall colds and roup. Mature birds should have one foot of roost space per bird and pullets should have proportionate space as they mature. Green feed is essential in preventerally. Removal of low vitality birds will decrease the danger of disease and colds throughout the winter, since the weaker pullets take cold more easily and become a constant source of infection. - Prairie

Color of the Eggshell Early in 1900 a New York experiment station, after a careful analysis, failed to uphold the tradition that the eggshell indicated or made any difference in egg quality. However, though the color of the hen's egg only designates the breed of chicken, it is true that eggs have been found to vary slightly in nutritive value. This variation comes not from the color of the shell, but because of feed. Eggs of the same breed of chicken will vary as much. if not more, than those from different breeds.

Counting the Chickens

## Rains and cooler nights make it

42 and 44. Size 34 requires 3½ yards of 39 inch material. Pattern 1204-This new day frock for sizes 36 to 52 is the



# Mrs. W. D. Cook, Atlanta, Ga.

Sift together 11/2 cups flour, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1 tbsp. sugar, and 4 tsps. baking powder. Combine 4 tbsps. melted Jewel Special-Blend Shortening, 3 eggs slightly beaten, 1 cup milk and 1 tbsp. orange marmalade. Add, all at once, to dry ingredients and stil until smooth Last, add 1/2 cup pecans, finely chopped. Put mixture, about 3 tbsps. at a time, on a hot waffle iron and cook until done. Serve with Orange Fluff.

**BUNDLE CARRIER** 

Orange Fluff .-- Beat 1/2 pint of cream till firm then stir in 1 tbsp. of sugar and 1 of orange marmalade.—Adv.



By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



39 inch material. Less with short sleeves. The collar in contrast requires % yard.

The adorable little number for Miss Two-To-Eight, Pattern 1994, is surely without competition in the way of downright intrigue. Why not do things up right and cut this model twice-panties too, naturally-using sheer wool for the "best" occasion frock and gingham or seersucker for school, play and all-purpose use? Pattern 1994 is available in sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. Size 4 requires 2½ yards of 39 inch material plus 3/4 yard of bias binding for trimming.

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