

My only desire during those days was to get away. And Dr. Bouligny insisted on prolonging my stay. Florrie needed my care, he said. And the semblance of the ordinary, everyday state of affairs which they had built up was so real in its outward aspects that I could not refuse. I could not say openly that I wanted to leave, becausewell, because Adela looked worried, harassed, and oldor Evelyn dark and ill-or Hilary frightened. That I wanted to leave because a man had been killed in that house. That I was afraid.

And I scarcely dared say that I wanted to leave because I was convinced that one of them had murdered a man.

Nothing, however, happened during those three days; it seems incredible as I write it. but it's true. Florrie had got over her communicativeness; Dave stayed out of sight, and when Dr. Bouligny asked what I had done with the remaining veronal tablets and I told him Evelyn had them he seemed quite satisfied and said no more about it.

It was when Florrie was sitting up in a chair and an amazing dressing gown which only Florrie could have thought anything but poisonous, and was obviously about to get up and stay up, that 'Adela undertook her campaign. I wonder how often she had rehearsed it, gone over every step of it, testing its weak points, before she sent for me the afternoon of the fourth day of Florrie's illness.

She was in the library. The high-backed chair she had chosen added to her little air of stateliness. Her bleak blue eyes looked colder, back of her polished eyeglasses. Her lavender silk gown fell in delicate folds, and there were her favorite snowy ruffles about her throat and wrists. She asked me a few ques-

tions about Florrie, said she

would convince me I could not quite credit my ears.

All those damaging things I knew swarmed into my thoughts. How could she prove their innocence when I knew there was no burglar? When I knew that the diamonds had never been stolen? When I knew about the revolver and about poor little Janice's bloodstained hat? When I knew so many things- and yet not enough.

Janice said Bayard had been "bleeding the family for years."

Silence in that long room with the bare space almost at my feet where there had been the rug on which we found Bayard, dead. And the door to the little study where I knew he'd actually been killed securely closed. I don't know why I felt so sure that Dave was at that very moment in his soundproof study unless it was because I so seldom saw him and I knew that was his retreat.

"I intend," said Adela, slowly and deliberately in her elegant voice, "to prove it. And you can help me, Miss Keate, if you will be so good. I want you to hear everything I ask, every inquiry I make and its answer. And if you feel that, in any case, I have not fully and thoroughly covered the ground, I want you to say so. To ask, in fact, anything that occurs to you."

Gradually I grasped the thing she proposed to do, which was apparently to conduct her own inquiry. To question in my hearing those who might be thought to have had some connection with the death of Bayard Thatcher. I wondered that she dared. It would take the wisdom of a serpent, the wiliness of a diplomat, the guarded care with which one walks on the edge of a precipice. She continued:

"I have asked Emmeline to

Knew and counted on her powers to protect him? "You were making jelly in the back kitchen that afternoon. Did you see anybody at

all besides Higby all that afternoon?" "No, ma'am, not a soul." "But of course you were not

at the window of the kitchen all that time?"

"Why, yes ma'am, I was."

"But. Emmeline, you couldn't have been at the window every moment." Adela's face was granite again, her blue eyes like two stones. How she must have longed to beat down Emmeline's testimony; yet she had not asked the woman to lie.

"Why, yes, ma'am," said Emmeline. "I was. Higby gets lazy when the weather gets warm. And Miss Janice had told me you would all be gone that afternoon and I'd better keep an eye on him. So I just brought all the sugar and glasses and strainers and everything I would need to the long table below the window. I had the little stove right there too-you know how wide the windows are, Miss Adela—so there was no need for me to leave at all. And I kept an eye on him all the time like I said I would. He knew it, too. And worked right along."

"You can see the back door from there?"

"Why, of course. You know that, Miss Adela. You can't help seeing the back door. It's right square in front of the window. No, ma'am, nobody went in that back door. There was nobody at all around the back of the house that whole afternoon, ma'm. I'm sure of it."

Adela's face looked gray and old and tired. But she was still stately and unmoved.

"Can you see the library from the back kitchen?"

Emmeline looked scornful. "You know I can't, ma'am." "Then anybody could have entered the library windows without your seeing him?"

Emmeline did not understand her immediately, and the question had to be repeated. It was just at that moment, I believe, that Pansy waddled across the room, looked at me suspiciously like a cranky little old woman, and settled with a tired puff at Adela's feet.

my own head. What would they do, what would they say, when they discovered all those things I knew! "Very well, Emmeline. That

is all. Higby is on the east lawn. Will you send him here, please."

We were silent while we waited; Adela stared out on the lawn with unseeing blue eyes. I could not know what she thought of Emmeline's stubborn refusal to admit the possibility of the fictitious burglar having got past her sharp eyes. It was one of the ironies of life that so short a time was to elapse before Adela was to be so frantically glad for that stubborn refusal. But she couldn't know that, then, and I wondered what her thoughts were as we sat there waiting for Higby.

Higby was easier to confuse. Probably Adela's bland stateliness awed him. He began by saying that not a fly could have got into the library windows without his, Higby's, seeing it, and ended by admitting that there were many times when his back was of necessity turned to those windows. "But there's no shrubbery near the house, Miss Adela,

except there in front. And my back would be turned only for a moment or two at a time." "Much can happen in a

moment," said Adela. "Don't you agree with me, Miss Keate, that the burgler could have made his entrance into the house without Higby's seeing him?"

"I don't think anybody could—" began Higby helplessly, and stopped on encountering Adela's cold blue gaze.

"There's only this," I said slowly. "A thief would have had to approach the windows from the back or front of the house. Since there are no side doors, he couldn't have entered that way. And Emmeline is positive no one was at the back of the house. And I am equally positive no one came from the front of the house. Between the three of us the whole circuit of the house was under observation." Adela always knew when to

agree. That's quite true, Miss Keate. But don't you think it possible for an intruder to have somehow managed to approach the house from the west?" "No, ma'am," said Higby, sticking to his guns for a rather brief moment. "I know nobody did."

INDIANS USED ANESTHETICS

- (UP) - Indi-Kansas City, ans in Central America used anaesthetics long before Columbus made his voyage of discovery, and were acquainted with the fundamentals of mathematics long before white men learned them, according to Gregory Mason, explorer and archaeologist.

"How many Americans realize," Mason asked, "that the Toltecs built a pyramid three times as great in bulk as the biggest in Egypt, that the Peruvians made tapestries finer than any of Europe, and that the Mayans invented zero 600 years before the Hindus-which means that the Mayans were able to multiply and divide 1,000 years before Europeans could.

"The natives of Yucatan, whom Cortez called 'barbarians.' were better astronomers than the Europeans, and had a calendar far more accurate than the one Columbus was using and in some ways even superior to the one we use today."

Informal Evenings



Knitted Things Demand Extra Care in Washing

Have you succumbed to the knitting or crocheting fever? Whether or not, you certainly have sweaters. knitted suits, etc., for who can be without them these days? They're so attractive, and almost indispensable for sport and everyday wear. and if washable, as many of them are, it's so easy to keep them clean. Before washing a new sweater, test it to be sure the colors are fast, by squeezing an inconspicuous portion in clear, lukewarm water for five minutes or so.

Knitted things often get out of shape when wet, so to insure restoring them to the correct proportions just draw an outline on clean, wrapping paper before wetting. Incldentally, the ideal time to draw this outline is when the sweater is new. before you have stretched the elbows, etc. Then this outline may be used each time you wash the sweater.

Remove unwashable buttons, buckles, etc., and turn the sweater wrong-side out. Make rich suds with mild, neutral soap flakes; always have the suds and rinse waters lukewarm or cool. Put in the sweater and wash by squeezing the suds through and through the material. Never rub. Wash quickly. Do not soak colored garments.

Thoroughly rinse in plenty of lukewarm or cool water. Squeeze out the water-don't twist. Then roll the sweater in a dry turkish towel, knead for a moment and unroll. Don't leave colored garments rolled up while wet. Ease the sweater into shape on the outline. If the sweater tends to shrink, pin it in place on a firm surface as on corrugated pasteboard, or an old rug. Use pins which will not rust.

When the sweater is dry remove it from the outline, turn it rightside out and press it lightly, using a damp cloth to remove wrinkles and pin marks.

Warfare on Leprosy

Seven outstanding American bacteriologists, the first of whom will be Dr. Malcolm H. Soule, professor of bacteriology at the University of Michigan, are to assume tours of duty at the Philippine leper colony on Culion island in a concerted effort to conquer the disease which has defeated all attempts at extermination from time immemorial.

The 6,000 cases on Culion Island are expected to furnish variations in such numbers as to advance the investigations recently conducted in the more limited leper colony at Porto Rico by Doctor Soule and Dr. Earl B. McKinney, of George W ington university, who succeeded in isolating the leprosy bacillus. As a result of experiments conducted with monkeys, which were inoculated with leprosy bacillus, it was determined that it is not a vigorous or growing organism with any but humans, the animals quickly recovering their former health.

hoped I would be with them a few days longer, gave me no opportunity to voice my own somewhat urgent views of the matter, and began:

"Miss Keate," she said, "I have liked you very much. I feel you to be a woman of common sense and sanity. I want your help."

"Yes. You see-" her bleak blue eyes went to the open window for a moment to linger on the green stretches of sunlit lawn and the cool shadows of the shrubbery at Its edge-"Bayard's death has been a great shock. You know that. So far, we have not succeeded in discovering the man who did it. The man who stole the diamonds. Mr. Strove doesn't seem to think we shall ever find him. Now then, dirst I want you to understand that I myself am convinced-entirely convincedthat Bayard met his death at the hands of a wicked thief. 'At the same time it happened here-in my house-the Thatther home for generations. There will be people who will say things. Anything. People are always ready to talk of a family which—" she hesi-tated here and then continued with quiet simplicity -"which has been more or less prominent and which has never lacked-worldly goods. I could never be more completely convinced than I am now that the members of my family are innocent of this thing. Even the thought is absurd. But for their own protection I intend to prove it."

There was silence in the long old room: A silence so complete it was as if the books and the portraits and the old walls themselves were repeating her words: "I intend to prove it."

Even with the memory of that conversation which I had overheard when she had told Hilary and Evelyn that she

Third Suit for Divorce -> Asked to Be Restrained

Little Rock, Ark. -- (UP) When William Cook's wife filed mit for her third divorce from him. Cook went to court and sought a restraining order. Answering the divorce complaint Cook said:

"On two occasions when divorces were granted, the plaintiff and the defendant remarried within a short time.

"The defendant loves the plaintiff and he does not desire to live

come first. I intend to question her, Miss Keate. And I want you to listen carefully. And if you are not entirely satis-" she checked herself on the very verge of giving herself and her motives away -"I mean if you think I have overlooked any - anything,

don't hesitate to speak." "You mean," I said, "that you really want me to ask any questions that occur to me? To make any inquiry I wish to make?"

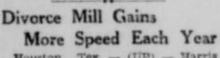
She looked relieved; I suppose because that was exactly what she did want. That was the only way in which I could be convinced.

"That is exactly it, Miss Keate," she said. "Please don't hesitate at all. Don't feel that any inquiry is at all-" She floundered a little and then adroitly skirted the dangerous ground. "You see, you have so much clearer a viewpoint than I. You are so much more apt to think of the obvious.-Oh, there you are, Emmeline. Come in, please. You may sit down. Emmeline," as the gaunt woman sat stiffly and uncomfortably on the edge of a chair, glanced with distrust at me, and then back to Adela's mouth, "Emmeline, I want to ask you a few questions about-about the afternoon of the robbery, and I want you to answer freely. Do you understand?"

"Yes, ma'am," said Emmeline hoarsely, with another side glance at me, and her hands working in her whiteaproned lap.

There was a brief pause while Adela formulated her questions, and I remember wondering that Adela dared undertake such a dangerous campaign. Was she really convinced that her family-every member of it-was innocent? Or could it be that she knew who had murdered Bayard?

apart from her and believes that if a divorce is granted he will within a short time be compelled to expend a sum of money to purchase another license and have another ceremony performed the plaintiff asks that the complaint be dismissed for want of equity and to prevent multiplicity of suits."



Houston, Tex. - (UP) - Harris county's divorce mill, represented for divorce must have lived in former and died on the latter.

"Why, yes, Miss Adela, I suppose so. But Higby was out there on the lawn all afternoon. I know that. I can see most of the lawn, you know, and nobody could have crossed it without my seeing him. Unless he came from the front, and then Higby-"

"We'll let Higby speak for himself," said Adela rather sharply. "That is all, Emmeline-unless-Miss Keate?"

"When she came in through the house and found Bayard dead here in the library, did she see anybody? Was the house quite deserted?"

Adela looked approving; she put my question to Emmeline at once.

"No," said Emmeline. "There was nobody about. I'd have seen him if there was. I have to let my eyes make up for my ears."

"Did you look through the rooms downstairs? Or upstatrs?"

"Why, of course not. You know what I did. When I passed the library door and looked in and saw him-right there where you are sitting, Miss Keate, ma'am-I ran in to look at him. Right there on the floor he was. Dead as a doornail. I dropped my spoonful of jelly and ran outdoors, and there you was on the steps. I've told you all that."

"You see, Miss Keate, someone could have been hiding here without Emmeline's knowing it. Although I really think the burglar made his escape immediately. Is there anything else you think of?"

"Not just now," I said slowly, thinking how difficult it was going to be to ask the things I really wanted to know without bringing somewhat dangerous suspicion on

by five civil district courts, is grinding out divorces at a dizzy speed and is gaining in speed each year.

Were it not for one clause in the Texas law, Harris county might qualify as a rival of Washoe county, Nevada, home of the famous Reno divorce mill.

It is fully as easy - and far cheaper - to get a divorce here, but longer legal residence is required for the purpose.

In Texas a percon bringing suit

"But you were mowing the lawn continuously," reminded Adela affably.

"Yes, ma'am," said Higby, looking uncomfortable and shifting about on his feet. "And in pushing the lawn-

mower up and down the stretches of lawn your back was often turned to the windows and to the lawn itself at different angles. And you were paying attention to your work.'

"Oh, yes, ma'am," said Higby looking further discomfited.

"You see, Miss Keate," said Adela blandly, "he was watching his work all the time. Probably paid little attention to anything else. It seems very clear to me that someone could have run across the lawn back of him. watched his chance, likely, to do so, and then slipped into the house. These screens, you see, can be unhooked and opened quite readily. And closed as readily. Thieves are very adept at that sort of thing. Do you think of anything you'd like to ask? Do you feel quite convinced?"

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Sleeper Awoke in Time to Catch Snake

Tulare, Cal. -(UP)- If he has to see things. Harry Martin, Jr., of Tulare prefers pink elephants or polka-dotted pigs, he declared today.

Martin awoke from a nap on a hillside near Woodlake, Cal., the other day to find a rattlesnake coiled and peering at him from a distance of eight inches.

He captured the snake. the state 12 months. Nevada requires only six months' residence.

Even so, more than half as many divorces were granted in Harris county in 1932 as were granted in Reno.

Matches have to be damp-proof in the Panama Canal zone. A special brand from Sweden is used there.

Napeleon was imprisoned on both E'ba and St. Helena islands at dif-event times. He escaped from the

This charming evening gown for the iess formal occasions is of black net, trimmed becomingly with white The sleeves are elbow pique. length and puffed below the shoulders. An unusual feature of the gown is the novel arrangement of fan pleats at the front of the skirt.

Law Repeal May

Bring Couples Back

Coeur D' Alene, Id. - (UP) -Folks in Idaho are now preparing for an influx of bashful grooms and blushing brides, since the state "gin marriage" law has been repealed and the three day clause discarded.

Repeal of the law came in the last session of the state legislature, and was pushed by business and hotel men who pointed to a falling off in trade derived from couples eloping from Washington.

It is the fond hope that Idaho's Gretna Green status will prove more successful to the state financially than did the six-month residence law regarding divorces. Biose and Coeur d' Alene had hoped to become the divorce capitals of the country, but Reno, doesn't seem to be feeling the competition any.

Citizens Can't Have

Beer Nor Old Songs Wenatchee, Wash. - (UP) -From the West come stories that a revival of sentimental songs, such as "Sweet Adeline," and "Down by the Old Mill Stream." is scheduled, due to the return of beer.

But citizens of this city-and of Chelan county, who - will have to get the old time songs over their radios without benefit of brewery juice.

A city and county ordinance has ordained that beer and music don't mix, and that selling beer at dance halls is taboo.

Cigar Made Him

Drunk, Man Said

Porterville, Cal. - (UP) - It may or may not have been 3.2 per cent beer that caused it, but, according to police, Ervin Given, 21, undeniably was intoxicated.

Given admitted he had been 'on his back, but insisted it was caused by a big, black cigar he had been smoking. Anyway, Police Judge Scott sen-

tenced Given to 10 days in jail.

Hitch Hiking

Rabbit Took Ride

Scott City, Kan. -(UP)- C. D. Dickhut drove into agarage here and discovered a jackrabbit contentedly sitting on the running board of his automobile.

The hitch-hiking rabbit, Dickhut said, apparently had taken refuge from a strong windstorm

by leaping on the machine. However, the journey ended disestrously for the rabbit. A garage man took him home for dinner

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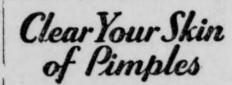
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