The Pelham Affair

BY Louis Tracy

SYNOPSIS.

Captain Arthur Pelham, arriving in London from Bombay, India, after several years' absence, is told by a railway porter of his strong resemblance to Sir Arthur, who he says was killed in France.

Pelham declares that his cousin is very much alive.

Jenkins, the porter, tells of words he heard the supposedly dying man repeat and declares that these names have been seen signed to personal items in the "Agony Column" of a London newspaper.

After going to a hotel, Captain Pelham decides to join in the fun and writes a personal addressed to "Matador and Vaquero" who had signed the ones which drew his attention. He warns both that "Bull" is after them.

"Scotland Yard will know of this in the morning," remarks one of the clerks in the advertising office.

On a midnight walk Pelham walks through the gates of the family manor and immediately is set upon by another intruder. A policeman catches him but allows his assailant to escape.

After being questioned at police headquarters, Pelham returns to his lodgings.

Next morning C. F. Prideaux of Scotland Yard calls upon him and hears his story from the time he arrived in London to his fight of the previous evening.

When the official from the criminal investigation department hears that Pelham's assailant appeared to be German, Prideaux, his interest in the case increases and he agrees to use the co-operation of Pelham in the clearing of the mystery.

Phyllis Daunt, fiance of Sir Arthur Pelham, calls on Captain Pelham while Prideaux is with him. She tells of meeting the titled Englishman and of her suspicions. She feels in duty bound to marry the baronet. The army officer is impressed with the girl.

On two occasions, Captain Arthur Pelham accosts two men and asks them outright if either of them is Vaquero or Matadore.

Sir Arthur Pelham leaves town suddenly, destination Scotland.

Acquaintances tell of Sir Arthur's life as a student in the university. All regret that his face was so disfigured in the war.

Scotland Yard continues investigations with the help of Captain Pelham and Phyllis Daunt.

(Continued From Yesterday.)

"Sir Arthur Pelham's left cheek is seamed with white lines. It must have been gashed in several places, and, though skilful treatment has saved him from absolute disfigurement he will carry the marks to the grave."

"Have you seen him?" demanded Somers.

"No. Robertson, who met him in the Waverley station not four hours ago, gave me an excellent picture."

"There is something wrong in the yarn somewhere," interposed Pelham. "Major Drummer knew him well, and has seen him recently. There must be scores of other officers who will tell us the same thing. Now, Jenkins has told us what he believes to be the truth, but the two met on the last occasion in a field hospital, where the light would be bad, and the surroundings about as difficult for careful observation as they well could be. I don't lay much stress on these apparent variations in the main story."

"What main story?" cried Prideaux. "The incidents of the battle, and the fact that Jenkins believed Sir Arthur to be dead, whereas he is very much alive."

"But that is the merest side issue. The real question is—who is '69,' and what relation does '69,' bear to Sir Arthur Pelham?"

"And why does Sir Arthur rush off to Scotland, leaving his mother, his fiancee, and another lady, protected only by some timid servants, in a house which, to put it mildly, is not the safest of residences?" said Somers.

"After reporting an attempted burglary to the police, and being well aware, I suppose, of last night's mix-up outside his front gate?" rejoined Prideaux.

"And not without knowledge of a lurking suspicion in Miss Phyllis Daunt's mind brought about by the concealment of his movements this morning and the queer-sounding telephone messages she had received recently," chimed in Somers.

The two men were thinking aloud. They were perplexed, a trifle fascinated perhaps, by a strange jumble of circumstances which hardly concerned them, since their actual quest was for a set of dangerous rogues who had imperilled the state during the anxious years of the war.

For a few seconds there was silence. Then Prideaux spoke.

"It seems to me—" he began; but the sentence was never completed, because the telephone rang, and Pelham rose to reply.

"Drummer, I expect," he said. "He knows I'm at home, and his orange-growing friend is probably a bit vexed at this afternoon's interruptions to his stock lecture . . . Yes. Hello! Yes. Oh, Miss Daunt . . . What's that? . . . Good Lord! Hold on! Mr. Somers and Mr. Prideaux are here, and I must tell them."

He turned to the detectives, and even they, case-hardened though they were in the strange and crooked ways of life in a great city, were startled by his words:

"Lady Pelham is dead! It is feared she has been murdered! Miss Daunt has just telephoned for a doctor, and is now sending for the police!"

CHAPTER V.

The C. I. D. in Action.

Prideaux sprang up and snatched the receiver out of Pelham's hand. His was the sudden alertness of a fox-terrier reposing on a drawing-room carpet and confronted unexpectedly with a full-grown cat.

"Go ahead, Miss Daunt!" he cried. "It's Prideaux speaking."

Thenceforth, for a minute or more, the others in the room only heard the rasping metallic sounds into which the telephone converts every human voice when the listener is not near enough to distinguish what is being said. Prideaux did not break in. He allowed Phyllis to tell her story in her own way. At the end he gave a volley of instructions with quick incisiveness.

"Don't permit the room or the body to be disturbed in the least degree. . . Yes, I appreciate your difficulties. The servants and you yourself could not avoid touching Lady Pelham before you were convinced she was dead. Ask the doctor to wear gloves when he makes his examination. At any rate, leave everything as it stands now. I'll be with you in 5 minutes or thereabouts. Tell the first policeman who arrives that I am on my way. I'm sorry you are mixed up in such a tragedy, but it cannot be helped now, so try and calm yourself."

He hung up, waited a few seconds until the line was disconnected and then called for the number of the Mortlake police station. As it happened, he got through at once, and was informed that the butler from Cedar Lodge had just that moment run in, breathless with haste, to say that Lady Pelham had been stabbed, presumably by a man who had called after dinner, and was received by her in her private suite.

He repeated the directions as to non-interference with the room in which the crime had been committed, and asked that the butler should be questioned instantly with regard to the appearance and clothing of the suspected murderer. The officer in charge was to see that news of the crime should be withheld from the press until the following morning. At the benefit of his two companions he rattled off a resume of what Miss Daunt had told him. The three ladies had finished dinner and were sitting in the garden, when a maid informed Lady Pelham a gentleman had called and took the name as being Monsieur Raymond Carre. Lady Pelham seemed to be slightly flustered, otherwise undisturbed, and ordered that Monsieur Carre should be taken to her sitting-room. She went straight in, and the two met on the stairs, Lady Pelham's suite being on the first floor, at the back of the house. They bowed, seeming to know each other, but did not shake hands. They entered the sitting-room, and the door was closed. Some fifteen minutes later Monsieur Carre came out, and had the front door open before the butler could reach it. Meanwhile Mrs. Linforth and Miss Daunt had gone into the drawing-room. Fully an hour afterwards—not ten minutes since, in fact—Lady Pelham's personal maid ran downstairs shrieking that her mistress was dead. As well as the alarmed household can determine, the old lady was killed by a thin steel instrument being thrust into her body above the heart. There are no perceptible signs of robbery. That's all."

"It seems to have sufficed," said Somers coolly. "Would you care to come with me, Captain Pelham? I am going to my office. We are in no great hurry. We shall be there long before Prideaux reaches Barnes."

Now, Pelham had begun to hope that he might be called to Cedar Lodge, but, like the good soldier that he was, he fell in with the wishes of the man who knew exactly what to do and how to do it.

"Bring your pipe if you prefer it to my cigars," said Somers. "We may have a late session. And a light overcoat, too. Goodness only knows where we may bring up before the night is through."

The Superintendent's quiet acceptance of the tragedy reminded his host of the calm way in which an experienced chief of the staff would deal with some dramatic turn of events during a fluctuating battle as revealed over the 'phone. Prideaux, of course, had vanished at once. The others followed leisurely, and were soon seated in a taxi.

"You may have to meet the butler, the maid, and any others who saw Monsieur Raymond Carre," said Somers, speaking in the same placid, thoughtful tone as before. "Servants are never good at descriptions of strange callers, but they may recognize certain points supplied by you if, let us say, 'Matador' or 'Vaquero' is the murderer. I fear not, however. Those scoundrels have nerve, I admit, but it demands something like the sheer heedlessness of insanity that one of them should commit this crime when they know they have been seen this very day. Of course, I am jumping at conclusions—a bad habit I seldom indulge in—but this business is so curiously complicated that one can only follow up a line of reasoning until it is proved mistaken, or suggests another."

"One thing strikes me at once as extraordinary, almost phenomenal," said Pelham.

"And that is?"

"Scotland Yard was actually busy on an investigation affecting these people, or some of them, before my unfortunate aunt lost her life."

"The murder was committed under our very noses, so to speak."

"No. I don't mean that. But these fellows, whatever their motive was, must have realized that the law was on their track, yet they dare take another and quite unforgivable step."

"I've heard of a fox snapping up a fowl while hounds were after him," said Somers, "but the average crook, as a rule, finds pursuit by the C. I. D. sufficiently interesting to absorb his attention for the time. Of course, he will slay in the effort to escape, but in this instance, it would appear that the man went to the house to kill, or prepared to kill, only if some request were refused. Is that it, I wonder? What's the time? Ten-fifteen. We can accomplish a good deal before eleven. Well, here we are. There will be news to hand soon. Grass doesn't grow under Prideaux's feet when he is turned loose on an affair like this."

The two ascended in a lift to the third floor of the somewhat grim building which looks out over Westminister bridge to the Thames. The superintendent's apartments consisted of an outer office, in which was seated a spruce young police-constable at a table in front of a telephone switchboard, and a larger room with two windows facing the Embankment.

"Nice view," commented Somers airily, with a nod towards the external blueness, since the shades of night are merely a poetic figure of speech on a fine June evening in England. "I wonder Whistler didn't choose Waterloo bridge as the subject of one of his nocturnes. It has a majestic solidity in this half-light, don't you think?"

"I have not had shell-shock, Mr. Somers," answered Pelham. The chief looked surprised.

"Honestly, I wasn't suspecting you," he smiled. "I always admire that panorama. Sometimes, indeed I am very glad to see it again. You've been on active service about seven years, I believe. I've been at it nearly thirty."

He touched a bell, and the police attendant came in.

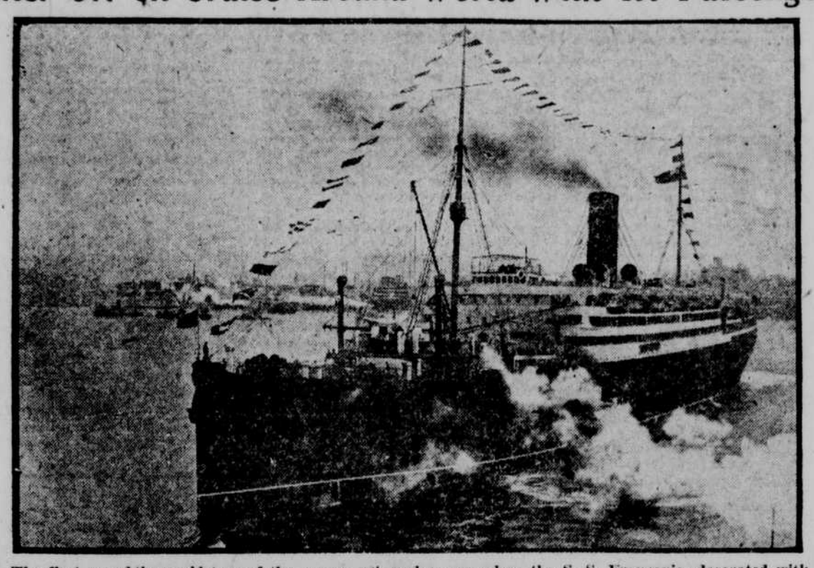
"Give me the Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh," he said. "How long will it take to get through?"

"About thirty-five minutes, sir."

"I thought so. When the hotel operator replies say that Scotland Yard wishes to speak with Sir Arthur Pelham, so he is to be called even if he has gone to bed."

(Continued in The Morning Bee.)

Liner Off on Cruise Around World With 400 Passengers



The first round-the-world tour of the season got under way when the S. S. Franconia, decorated with flags of all the countries she will visit, and then a few, sailed from New York with a passenger list of 400 persons.

Man Taken to Texas to Face Murder Charge

Kearney, Neb., Nov. 22.—Heavily shackled, Vern Stiles, 24, wanted in Texas on charges of murder and payroll robbery, started south yesterday in custody of Sheriff Allen Wheat of Liberty county, Texas.

Stiles was arrested here several days ago by Sheriff Sam Parr, while working on a farm west of Kearney as a cornhusker. He made no attempt to hide his identity, but insisted that he was innocent of any attempt to rob a bank.

Sheriff Wheat states that the specific charge to be pressed against Stiles is that of highway robbery, alleged to have been committed in Liberty, Tex., when an oil company paymaster was robbed of $1,200. The visiting officer stated that Stiles was also suspected of having shot and killed an intended highway robbery victim in another Texas county.

Grand Island Men Fined $100 Each on Booze Charge

Grand Island, Neb., Nov. 22.—As the result of a police raid, Ras Jorgenson, Homer Brown, jr., and William Benson pleaded guilty to liquor charges and were fined $100 each. Charles Nielsen pleaded not guilty, but was convicted on trial and fined in the same sum. Alfred Jones denied guilt and his trial was continued. Police had the assistance of an operative and are determined to keep after the bootleggers.

The Test of Value Is Quality---

Price exaggerations, bold statements, sensationalism in every form is in evidence in today's retailing. Think for a moment how meaningless it all is, and then consider the satisfaction of shopping at Pray's, where Quality is the prime factor in determining value.

Pray FOR MEN

1509 Farnam
1908 Farnam

Remarkable Tonic Brings New Strength to Thousands of Weak and Ailing

Discovery of Lyko, the Great General Tonic, Gives Aid of Science to Run-Down People

As you watch the crowd going along the street, how easy it is to see the difference in the people who make it up.

Some are well, strong, vigorous, full of the vim and energy that win in social and business life. Others are weak, emaciated, lacking in all that counts for power and success—mere nobodies in active affairs.

And yet most of these run-down people could quickly become well and strong if they would only help Nature to restore their bodies to a normal condition. What they need is an efficient general tonic and regulator. If they will do what thousands of other people once weak and lacking in energy—now strong and well—have done, they will use Lyko to get on their feet again.

It is simply amazing to read of the wonderful help Lyko has given to people who had become worn out in mind and body, many of them discouraged, hopeless of regaining their health and strength.

Mr. Johnson, a resident of Kansas City, was amazed at the way Lyko built up his run-down constitution. He says, "When I began taking Lyko I was thin and gaunt, weighed only 130 pounds and felt a great lack of 'pep.' Now I weigh 147 pounds, am full of energy and never feel tired."

H. Jenkins, of Chicago, is another to whom Lyko has meant renewed strength and vigor. The following is from his letter: "My business keeps me closely confined to the office and at a desk all day long. As a result, my system became all clogged up, I was always tired, rested poorly at night and grew nervous and irritable. I began using Lyko and now I am in fine shape again, feel cheerful, and am able to do much more work without fatigue or nervous strain."

Mitchell Murray, of Missouri, sends a letter which says: "When I began to take Lyko I was so weak I could hardly walk across the room. Now I am able to do a pretty fair day's work, and my neighbors are amazed at the effect."

J. D. Miller of Chicago writes: "We have been using Lyko in our family and find it the best tonic for stomach and bowels we have ever used."

F. B. Barker of Florida is another who writes in praise of Lyko. He says: "My wife's health was all run down and she has greatly improved since taking Lyko."

Lyko is a scientific preparation containing pure medicinal ingredients each of which has a beneficial action on some part of the system. It has a mild but effective laxative action which gets rid of constipation. It also stimulates a lazy stomach to normal action and improves digestion so that the body absorbs the full strength from the food. As many ailments come from a disordered digestive system or from a clogged up condition of the bowels, Lyko helps to remove one of the great causes of discomfort and illness.

Certain ingredients in Lyko have a direct and beneficial action on the kidneys and liver; others give strength to the nervous system and prevent what is known as nervous fatigue and mental exhaustion. Practically every part of the body is helped to return to its full health and strength by Lyko. And a healthy body means physical and mental power, magnetic personality, the appearance that brings admiration and confidence.

If you are frail, weak, suffering from a "breakdown" or if you feel inactive, lacking in energy, unable to compete with active people, if you look and feel old, let Lyko give you new vim and vigor. Do not delay. Begin at once. Let Lyko do for you what it has done for so many others.

Lyko is sold by leading druggists. Ask your dealer for it.

Sole Manufacturers
Lyko Medicine Company
New York Kansas City, Mo.

Lyko is sold by leading druggists. Always in stock at Beaton Drug Co.

—Advertisement.

"Give Once for All" Community Chest Week

BURGESS-NASH COMPANY.

"EVERYBODY'S STORE"

Xmas Candies and Nuts

Friday we open our Bargain Basement Candy Department. Here you will find a large assortment of Christmas candies and nuts at greatly reduced prices.

Bargain Basement

Household Club Plan of Extended Payments

Your purchases will be stored for you until you are ready to have them delivered. Some of the many articles to be selected that show not only foresight, thoughtfulness and good taste, but which class you as an employer of the greatest of all factors of American home-making—**THRIFT.**

Baby Carriages	Living Room Suites	Kitchen Cabinets
Bicycles	End Tables	Kodaks Luggage
Cameras	Dining Room Suites	Phonographs
Carpets	Mirrors	Pianos
Cedar Chests	Ferneries	Portieres
Chinaware	Bedroom Suites	Rugs
Clocks	Writing Desks	Silverware
Fireless Cookers	Sewing Cabinets	Stoves
Floor Lamps	Smoking Stands	Sweepers
Go-Carts	Chairs	Washing Machines

Further details will be furnished by any salesperson or at the Household Club Plan Offices—Sixth Floor.

Sale of Silverware

The intimate personal appeal of silver and the variety to which it may be put, commends it as a most pleasing gift.

The sterling and plated ware we are showing is selected from the best products of the day. No finer gift, no matter the occasion, can be imagined.

Salad Forks Set, $7.00 to $25.00
Many beautiful patterns are shown in both sterling and plate. Nicely boxed for gifts in set of six.

Knives and Forks $2.75 to $18.00
A very practical gift and always appreciated. Hollow handled knives are preferable.

Cake and Bread Trays Each, $5.00 to $15.00
Very fine quality plate used in these most attractive dishes.

Creamer and Sugar Set, $5.95 to $35.00
No housewife ever has too many sets of creamers and sugars.

Candlesticks and Bud Vases
10-inch octagon candlesticks and bud vases, reproduction of Dutch silver. Specially priced.

Candlesticks, pr., $2.49 **Bud vases, each, $1.49**

Main Floor

Sale of Clocks For Your Mantel

Clocks for Christmas Show Thoughtful Consideration.

Buy on Our Household Club Plan.

$11.50
"The Sensation"
This is a beautiful hand-rubbed brown mahogany finished case, with Gilbert 8-day pendulum movement and cathedral gong. It has an opaque dial with strong Gilwin sash. 10 inches in height. 18½ inches in width.

$14.50
"The Normal"
In graceful simplicity and beauty of outline this clock compares favorably with more expensive models. Rich brown mahogany finish, dependable 8-day pendulum movement, opaque dial and sturdy gold finished sash. Famous two-tone Normandy chimes. 10¾ inches in height. 21½ inches in width.

$16.50
"The Mode"
Simplicity and grace of this solid mahogany Tambour clock with its lustrous satin finish make it a favorite everywhere. Fitted with best Gilbert 8-day pendulum movement, gold finished Berkshire sash and silver dial. It has the cathedral gong. 9½ inches in in height. 17½ inches in width.

$21.50
"The Trophy"
Charmingly graceful, slender mouldings emphasize the curves of the top and sides. Hand-rubbed solid mahogany, dependable 8-day movement, silvered dial and Berkshire sash. Normandy two-toned chimes. 9½ inches in height. 21 inches in width.

Main Floor

Furniture

Reed Fernery $4.65
Assorted colors, are shown in these genuine reed ferneries.

Four-Poster Bed $24.50
Colonial four poster bed of combination mahogany, single or full size.

Mahogany End Table, $2.98
Hand rubbed finished mahogany end table.

Tea Wagon $21.65
Drop leaf tea wagon with separate glass tray, rubber tired artillery wheels.

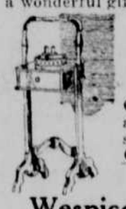
Unfinished Breakfast Suite, $19.85
5-piece unfinished breakfast suite, consisting of a table and four chairs.

Console Table $9.85
Mahogany finished half round console table.

Tilt Top Table $9.95
A wide variety of shapes and and finnishes are shown in these tables.

Windsor Chairs $7.50
Suitable for desk or dining room.

Book Blocks, $4.75
Solid mahogany book blocks of great beauty. This will make a wonderful gift.



Mahogany Smoker $8.50
Genuine mahogany humidor smoking cabinet. Others as low as $4.25

Wespico Mirrors $15.85
Any number of attractive styles and shapes from which to choose.

Spinet Desk, $26.50
Mahogany spinet desk of fine detail. Sale priced.

Foot Stools, $3.98
Covered with assorted fabrics.

Gate Leg Table $24.50
Solid mahogany gate leg table.

Fourth Floor

Kitchen Utensils For Thanksgiving

Muffin Pans
Heavy muffin tins, 6-cup capacity 45c
8-cup capacity 55c
12-cup capacity 85c

Mixing Spoons
Solid bowl mixing spoons, each 10c
Slotted aluminum mixing spoons, each 29c

Dunlap Beater
Dunlap beaters that whip cream, beat eggs or whip mayonnaise dressing, complete with bowl 89c

Pie Plates
Heavy tin plates, each ... 10c

Mixing Bowls
Yellow mixing bowls in sets of 5, consisting of a 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10-inch bowl, set $1.29

Graters
Round tin graters with three grating surfaces, coarse, medium and fine, each 15c

Roaster
Wear-Ever aluminum roaster with removable rack—in three sizes, $3.95, $4.95, $5.95

"Lisk" Roasters
Lisk self-basting, seamless roasters in oval shapes, made with inside removable tray. Sizes—
13x9x6½ $2.25
17x11x7 ..... $2.50
19x11x8¼ $2.75
19⅛x12½x8½ $3.00
20½x13½x8½ $3.50
21¼x14¼x10½ $4.75

Fourth Floor

Food Choppers
Universal food choppers of cast iron. One piece frame with spiral feed screw, all finely tinned. Each chopper complete with four cutters.

No. 0 size,—$1.85 value, **$1.50**
No. 1 size—$2.25 value, **$1.95**
No. 2 size—$2.75 value, **$2.45**
No. 3 size—$3.25 value, **$2.95**

Egg Beaters
White handled egg beaters, regular family size. 45c. value for 29c

Sauce Pans
"Wear-Ever" aluminum flat bottomed sauce pans, ea., 29c

Monthly Sale of Drugs

Soaps and Shampoos

$1.25 El Murillo Castile Soap, 4-pound bar, at	89c
25c Packer's Tar Soap	18c
12c Bocabelli Soap, small cake, 3 for	25c
25c Resinol Soap, at	18c
10c Wool Soap, at	6c
50c Lemon Shampoo, at	35c
75c Fitch's Dandruff Remover and Shampoo, at	59c
50c Palmolive Shampoo	35c

Creams

60c Sempray Jovenay, at	39c
50c Ingram's Milkweed Cream	35c
$3.00 Melto Reducing Cream	35c
50c Mavis Cold Cream	35c
50c Mavis Lemon Cream	35c

Hair Tonics

$1.50 Van Ess Hair Tonic	98c
$1.75 Pinaud's Eau de Quinine	$1.19
60c Wild Root Hair Tonic	39c

Drugs

$1.00 Listerine, 14-oz. size	69c
25c Listerine, 3-oz. size	19c
$1.25 Bayer's Aspirin, 100 in bottle	98c
30c Phenolax Wafers	19c
35c Rubbing Alcohol, at	19c
25c Witch Hazel, 4-oz. size	19c
35c Dr. West's Tooth Brush	33c
50c Squibb's Tooth Paste	29c
35c Nail Brushes, all bristles	24c

Toilet Water and Perfume

$1.00 Trailing Arbutus Toilet Water	69c
$1.00 Mavis Toilet Water, new style	69c
$1.00 Lilac Vegetal for after shaving	69c
$1.50 bottle Narcissus Vendome Extract, at	$1.29
$2.00 Djer Kiss Extract	$1.09
$2.00 ounce Trailing Arbutus Extract	98c
$3.00 ounce L'Origan Extract, bulk,	$1.89
$5.00 ounce Volnay's Firefly Extract, at	$2.18

Rubber Goods

35c Fountain Syringe Lengths	19c
$1.50 Black or Orange Fountain Syringe	89c
50c Rubber Gloves, at	35c
$1.75 Hot Water Bottles, blue or red	98c
$1.50 Douche Syringe, at	89c

Face Powder and Rouge

$1.00 box Ambre Elite Face Powder	50c
50c Java Rice Powder	35c
$1.25 Manon Lescant Powder	89c
50c Mavis Face Powder	35c
50c Dorin Rouge, all shades	39c
75c Mandarine or Ashes of Roses Rouge	59c

Vanities

$1.50 Cra Loe Beauty Box containing compact powder, rouge, eyebrow pencil and lipstick, black or nickel finish	98c
$1.50 Gun Metal Vanities, double	98c
$1.00 Gun Metal Vanities, single	79c
$1.00 Tapestry Vanity	49c
$1.50 Holman's gift package Toilet Water, several odors from which to choose	98c

Main Floor