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THE BEE: OMAHA, SUNDAY, JULY 31, 1921.

# World's Greatest Detective Cases

### How Inspector Fowler, One of the Famous Chiefs of Scotland Yard, Caught Brinkley, the Poisoner.

(Fowler was one of the famous Council of Seven in Scotland Yard in 1913. He handled many famous cases and was concerned in most of the sensational crimes of London. Later he became the chief of the "Tard." In 1918 he tread the chief of

In 1918, he traced the thieves who stole Queen Alexander's miniatures and recovered the property for her majesty.

majesty. A year before his promotion he was assigned to the famous Park Lane. Werthelmer robbery, when \$500,000 worth of Bank of England notes were stolen. He captured the thickes and recovered most of the

The case of Brinkley, the Croy-don prisoner, is one of the best known of Inspector Fowler's successes, an account of which is given below.) (Copyright, 1921, by the World-Wide News Service, Inc.

#### By NAZARIENE DAAN KANNIBELLE.

Mr. Beck, his wife, and their young daughter kept a lodging house at Croydon, England. Reginald Parker boarded with them. Parker was a man of good habits and was employed as a clerk in a bank. He was treated by the Becks as one of the members of the family.

"Why Reggie, what are you going to do with that dog?" Mrs. Beck asked Parker as she pointed to a big bulldog which was lying peacefully on the hearth. "An acquaintance of mine at Ful-

ham asked me to get it for him. He wants a dog to keep the burglars had time enough to mix the prussic away from his house."

If I were a burglar I shouldn't like want to poison the Becks, whom he to meet that dog in the dark," she did not know, puzzled the Scotland observed. "I expect my friend to call for the

dog. His name is Brinkley. Have you ever met him?" he asked. "I was going to take "No, I never remember meeting Maxwell Road, Fulham," Parker rehim?" 'replied Mrs. Beck.

While she was speaking the door bell rang. "Perhaps its your friend," with Brinkley?"

familiarly.

"I see you got the dog. What's the price?" he asked. "I think it is rather a good dog. It will cost you \$25," answered "Yes, it was a will. He

Parker as he returned the new-

comer's greeting. "Very cheap at that," replied Brinkley. Then taking a bottle of sign the will. But i never saw it oatmeal stout out of his hip pocket he added: "Come lets have a drink swear to something I did not see." to settle it."

you were a total abstainer!" Brinkley smiled. "Well Reggie,"

he said, as he poured a little stout into two glasses on the table, "while the Becks had been poisoned accisettling a bargain it won't do any harm to have a little drink."

the dog for a few minutes.

cause I had known Brinkley for repeated once more as he added some time and 1 had never seen these most damaging words. "I him drinking; besides I knew him have not seen Parker for three

to be a tectotaller." It was plain to Fowler that if Parker was telling the truth, and if both Parker and Brinkley drank out of the same bottle without any ill effects that the prusic acid much ill effects, that the prussic acid must was on his way to the Croydon po-

have been put in it by someone after-ward. In the meantime he could not see any reason why the Beck one says that I bought stout they family should attempt to commit will have a hard time to prove it,' suicide. Neither could he understand he said.

why either Parker or Brinkley Now the Scotland Yard man had should attempt to murder the not mentioned stout. He had only couple; and furthermore, Brinkley informed Brinkley that he had never knew the Becks and had not poisoned Mr. and Mrs. Beck by adeven met them. ministering prussic acid. Certainly

self.

then later when Parker was sent for

a glass of water Brinkley poured

the prussic acid into the bottle, believing that later when Parker was

alone he would have a drink by him-

Yard man to prove where Brinkley

Perhaps if Brinkley had not been

As it were, the owner of the shop

picked Brinkley out of 10 men as

Then the detective examined the

purchaser of a bottle of stout.

Now it was up to the Scotland

Together All the Time. As the case stood in the Scotland Yard man's mind, either Brinkley or Parker had put the prussic acid in the bottle of stout. Fowler then cross-examined Parker. cross-examined Parker.

"You both drank out of the bottle," he observed. "Yes, sir, we did." "Then where did you go?"

"Brinkley and I went out together. Down the street I parted from him and went to the house of a man named Marsh who had given me the dog. I stopped at Marsh's got the oatmeal stout.

First Fowler visited a small "offhouse all night." license" shop in Croydon whose la-"Either before or after you two had a drink of that stout, did you bel was on the bottle and interleave the room at all," asked the viewed the proprietor.

"It was last Saturday night," the Scotland Yard man, "We were together all the time," proprietor said, "about 7:30, when a replied Parker. "Just a moment," he added, "except for about a minute. a bottle of oatmeal stout." Brinkley complained that the stout "Would you recognize him if you saw him?" questioned the detective.

"I certainly would," he replied. came right back again. It did not "There was a little argument about take me a minute." the payment of a 4-cent deposit on the bottle. At first he refused to pay it and went out; then he came

acid in the bottle of stout even in back again and paid the deposit on 'You certainly got the right dog. that short period. But why he should the bottle." so mean over a 4-cent deposit on the Yard man the most. bottle of stout Fowler would have

"Do you know where Brinkley considerable difficulty in tracing him to that shop, as it would not "I was going to take the dog to have been possible for the proprietor of the shop to recognize a casual

plied. "Are you intimately acquainted

added Mrs. Beck as she left Parker to open the door. "I will leave you two alone." "I will leave you two alone." "I will leave you two alone." the one who bought the bottle of In another moment a heavy-set, Parker. "Some years ago we had an solid-looking man of 45 or 50 en- argument over my wife. Then later tered the room and greeted Parker he wanted me to commit perjury. He 7:30, and he found one which arhad a will and he asked me to swear

> "Will?" questioned the Scotland to the liquor store where Brinkley got the bottle of oatmeal stout was

"Yes, it was a will. He said that there was some money left to him, and he asked me to swear that I saw the party who left him the money signed, so I told him I could not

Fowler began to see a motive "Why Brinkley, I always thought which Parker himseli had not understood. To the detective's mind it was clear that Brinkley had intended the poisoned stout for Parker and that

Parker and Brinkley talked about not be proved that brinkley put the have him put under arrest in the will "I think you better keep him over night and bring him over to my eastigate further

to visit the public house, the address of which Parker gave him, at the first opportunity. The detective's second point was proved. He now knew the motive tricks on them. I always get my timetable to find out if there was a train to Croydon between 7 and rived in Croydon at 7:20. He calculated that from the railroad station asked finally. "I never heard of her," replied Parker,

thing at all for Brinkley in the last

only a few minutes' walk, and he concluded that Brinkley had arrived cording to law, a will must be wit-The detective was informed by a railroad inspector who knew Brink-Brinkley was confronted with Park- the way. ley that he was on that very train. There was no doubt about it, as the inspector had known Brinkley for were together in Fulham when the Thus the links in the chain of evi-

signed it in a saloon."

will was signed and witnessed. The dence were slowly connected, placing detective thought of a way he could Brinkley on the night of the murder test this. in Croydon buying a bottle of stcut

to sign it as a matter of form, and latter said that Mrs. Blume's sig- last. I didn't read it. As a matter of fact, nature was a forgery, and from specimens of Brinkley's handwriting her lodger, and gave him notice, and The inspector made a mental note he was convinced the forgery had

> -an attempt which ended in the own back." death of Mr. and Mrs. Beck. When While with this landlady he kept it came to proving the will in open chickens, and it was because he was court it would be necessary to call always experimenting with these

An important point here occurred court it would be necessary to call always experimenting with these to the detective. He knew that, acin the presence of Mrs. Blume. He rious kinds, that she gave him nonessed and signed in the presence of had refused to do this, and so Brink- tice. Six of these chickens were the person making the will. When ley had decided to get him out of poisoned and died as a matter of fact.

er's statement he said bluntly that he was not telling the truth, but that Heard and Parker and Mrs. Blume ware together in Fulker the prussic acid come from?" Brinkley's Mistake.

By trade Brinkley was a carpenter, and the detective learned that he had done some carpentry work for a Mr.

On the Track. The detective's next two steps were to find out what was the ac-cused man's motive and how he ob-tained the new formation in the saloon where Parker had said he had signed the petition for tained the new formation in the new

few weeks?" asked Inspector Fowler. fied that the proofs he had that the Brinkley was a man to stick at noth- a stop to it. "Well, the only thing I can think of was a petition Brinkley was get-ting up of some kind. He asked me well-known handwriting expert. The One of his landladies did not like placed it in a prominent position in

she had the greatest difficulty in get-

crash, and, going downstairs to see what it was, she found smoke com-

ing from under the door of Brinkley's room. There were eight people house at Fulham, and he also ob- Vale a few months before. Mr. Vale in the house at the time, and she

the coal cellar, where the landlady was bound to pick it up. As a result,

Finally, the detective discovered

that some years previously Brinkley had been living with a girl, whom he undoubtedly poisoned. He admit-ted at the inquest that he kept a number of chemicals in the house which he used for experimental purposes, and said the girl might have accidentally swallowed some. He was severely censured at the time

been tried for murder. (Next Sunday watch for another world's greatest detective case).

### Wants to Shoot Baby!

The director of Oliver Morosco's

Scotland Yard's

London, June 30 .- Scotland Yard's famous chamber of horrors, the Black museum, is to be reopened. It was dismantled soon after the outbreak of war, the room which housed the relics of notorious crimes and criminals being required for other purposes.

The Black museum was formerly one of the sights of London, and many famous peoeple, including crowned heads, have inspected its grim exhibits.

Plaster casts of murderers' heads Charles A. Taylor's enthusiasm adorned one of its walls and the often makes him somewhat abrupt. ropes which ended the carcers of celebrated criminals dangled from "The Half Breed," was looking for "Brides in the Bath" mith drowned The Black museum is not mainclaiming: "I want to shoot the be obtained to inspect its grim relics. given within its. walls.

Horrors Chamber To Be Reopened

Horrible Crimes, Closed During War.

Black Museum, Full of Relics of Murders, Hangings and

Published by arrangement with Life. Still the detective was not satis- tive, showed only too clearly that have had, and he determined to put mite. He took that piece of coal and



W CE ALLES DANA GIBSON 

vestigate further. place in the morning," Brinkley sug-

gested. Parker agreed saying, "I think it would be better for me to bring him over to you in the morning as the trains will be crowded Saturday night."

Suddenly putting his hand on his chest Brinkley said, "Parker please get me a glass of water. That glass of stout made me thirsty. I suppose I must admit that I am not a regular drinker."

#### Jumps Out of Seat.

jumped out of his seat and rushed the experienced detective his major out of the room and down the stairs clue. to get his friend a glass of water.

As soon as Parker left the room Brinkley opened the stout bottle and poured the contents of a small phial, which he produced from his vest pocket, into it. There was a scant odor of almond, but by the time Parker returned with the glass of water, it had gone.

The two chatted a little while longer, and, as Brinkley started to go Parker remarked that he was go-ing to make a call on a friend. "I will go out with you. I am going to see the man I got the dog from," he added.

Just before leaving the house Parker stepped into the sitting room and informed Mr. and Mrs. Beck that he might spend the night with a friend and not to expect him that "However, I will be home night. early in the morning and take the dog over to Fulham," he said. But he never took that dog to Fulham.

That night, shortly after midnight, Mr. and Mrs. Beck were lying un-

That night, shortly after midnight, Mr. and Mrs. Beck were lying un-conscious on the floor. Their daugh-ter, Daisy, too, was affected but she had strength enough to notify Dr. W. Dempster. Daisy was lying on the sofa in a state of collapse when the doctor arrived. With difficulty she told the story of her parents' condition to the cort. "After Parker left the room," she said, "father and mother went to his room and saw a bottle of stout on the table. Thinking that it belonged to Parker they each filled a glass and then father poured out a glass for me. Mother complained that it was too bitter for her, although fa-ther didn't seem to mind it at all. I tasted it and found it so bitter that I tasted it and found it so bitter that I spat it out before I had hardly

drunk any." "The stout was mixed with a strong poison," the physician re-

marked. On examining the remaining contents of the bottle, Dr. Demepster came to the conclusion that the stout was mixed with prussic acid, one of the most deadly poisons in existence. Both Mr. and Mrs. Beck died half an hour after the doctor's arrival.

"How did the stout happen to be on the table?" asked the Doctor. "I can not tell you," replied Daisy Beck. "All I know is that it was on Parker's table."

The matter was reported to Scotland Yard, and Detective Inspector Fowler was assigned on the case. He first interviewed Parker, who

time it appeared rather strange be- Sherman & McConnell 5 Drug Stores

Fowler was certain that Brinkley tained the prussic acid with which With the bottles and the will he was the murderer so he made up his the murder was committed, for Dr. called to see Dr. Mitchell, one of the mind to go to Fulham and put Stevenson, the famous government foremost authorities in England on prussic acid. Brinkley under arrest.

under suspicion, that they make the hundred famous cases all over the

every case a few words of protesta-"In a minute," said Parker as he tion, or expression of innocence, gave

> on a charge of administering poison. namely prussic acid, to Reginald Parker with intent to murder him," announced the Scotland Yard.man as he gave Brinkley the usual stereotyped warning that 'anything he might say would be used against

him in the future.' Brinkley's reply was the exclamation, "Well I am sugared!" As Fowler put the hand cuffs on Brinkley he further informed his man that he would probably also be charged with the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Beck. "They have died

as a result of the prussic acid ad-ministered to them," he added. "I am sugared again," Brinkley

How to Look and Feel

**Bright in Hot Weather** 

expert, easily proved that it was that inks. It seems to be human nature, or deadly poison which had killed the "I want you to tell me," he said,

by that train.

some time.

peculiar to the weakness of criminals unfortunate Mr. and Mrs. Beck. most damaging statements, insigni- detective got on the track to the an- either of these ink bottles used? ficant as they may be, at the moment swer to the one thing which puzof their arrest. The recorder of zled him so-the motive. He sus- afterwards showed the clever reasthese cases has examined several pected something to do with a will, oning of the detective was correct. from what Parker had told him, and world and he noticed that in nearly his inquiries brought to light a very remarkable story.

The house in Maxwell Road had belonged to an old lady named Mrs.

Blume, who had recently died, and "Brinkley, I put you under arrest left the whole of her property, valued at \$10,000, to Brinkley. The daugh-ter of the old lady told the detective that she was contesting the will, because her mother had never given her the slightest idea she was going to leave all her property to a comparative stranger.

asked the detective.

"A man named Heard and a man named Parker," was the reply. Now, Parker denied having signed any will, but when the detective showed him his signature on Mrs. Blume's will he admitted at once it was his!

ADVERTISEMENT

he asserted. ADVERTISEMENT

responds to the one you have obtained from Fulham." The reply was as conclusive as it could be-that the will was not witnessed and signed at the same time "Who was the will witnessed by?"

as the law demands-and this proved one of the most damaging pieces of evidence against Brinkley at his trial. At the trial Brinkley accounted for the three different inks being used by saying Mrs. Blume kept three different kinds in the house. When asked what had become of them, however, he gave the "But I don't remember signing it,"

lame excuse that he had given them "Do you remember signing any- away.

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Mr. Vale had given him some Brinkley could have

Now, if "if this will was written and signed At Maxwell Road, Fulham, the in the same ink or not. If not, was Dr. Mitchell's reply a few days "The signature of Parker to the will," replied the ink expert, "is written in the same ink as that you have obtained from the public house. The signature of Mrs. Blume is written in a different kind of ink, while the body of the will and the signature of the other witness is written in a totally different kind of ink. Neither of the latter inks cor-

proved he had a dog at the time, and had actually poisoned it, he might have been acquitted, for it would have been a strong point in his favor. But the detective found that Brinkley certainly had no dog to poison at the time. His three great points against the murderer were proved. The fact that he had

killed other people by mistake instead of Parker made no difference to his guilt in the eyes of the law. "If Brinkley took the poison to the house on the fatal night," said Mr. Justice Bigham in his summing up, "with the intention of poisoning a certain person, and some one else was poisoned, he was guilty of murder

And of murder the jury did not resitate to find him guilty.

trial, though discovered by the detec-

What did not come out at the

Shaffer Oil and Refining Co. manu-factures a complete line of Petroleum Products: You Can Be Fascinating Lyko brings the happiness which has its source in good health. Happiness and health make any

actually endangered the lives of eight fellow creatures. Afterwards to show the cool nerve of this man, he a baby to photograph in one of the his last victim occupied a prominent brought action against an insurance scenes. Walking down a Los Ange- place in one corner of the room. company for \$1,000, the amount he les street he saw just the youngster had insured the contents of the room he wanted being wheeled by its tained to satisfy the morbid curiosity against fire! Needless to say, he parents. Taylor dashed forward, ex- of idlers. Special permission has to

didn't get it. Previous to this he had quarreled with another landlady over the quan-tity of coal allowed him for his fire. baby!" using the studio vernacular hasty explanations saved him from I. D. in the science of crime detect He suspected the landlady was tak- being flattened under the parental tion, and lectures are frequently, ing some of the coal he ought to wrath,



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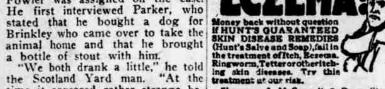
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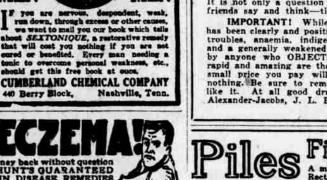
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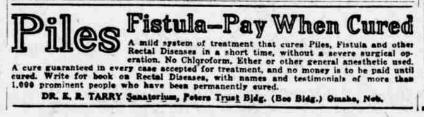
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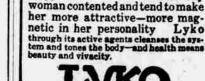
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