SERIAL STORY

The Chronicles Addington Peace

By B. Fletcher Robinson

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THE MYSTERY OF THE CAUSEWAY

"Well, well, no one can think of everything," said Peace, with a flicker of a smile. "Come and show me where you found him."

The dark stain upon the stabs between the nodding reeds was sign-post sufficient. The little detective took one look at the spot, and then stood with his hands behind his back, peering about him.

Were the prisoner's clothes wet?" he asked quietly.

"No, sir; quite dry." "And how deep is the lake?"

"From three to six feet deep, or so I've always heard."

"Is there a boat on it?"

"Jake keeps an old punt, I believe. but the pleasure craft are under lock and key in the boathouse. They've not been in the water for years, and would leak like steves."

"That is all. Go up to the house and wait for me there. I shall be back in an hour or so."

The policeman saluted and retired down the causeway, his heavy boots clattering upon the stones.

"Now we can get to work, Mr. Phil-lips," said the little man, cheerfully, his eyes dancing with a pleasant expectation. "While I am making a little examination of the causeway, should be obliged if you will wait for me at the cottage on the Island youd-

The last thing I saw of him was a neat boot sticking out from the reeds into which he was e-awling on hands and knees.

The cottage was an old-fashioned. one-storied building. The red tiles of its gabled roof had been delicately toned by age until they had sunk to color very restful to an artist's eye. Wooden shutters blocked the windows; its door of stained and wormeaten oak was firmly secured. A path led through straggling laurel bushes from the door to the lake, and I walked down to it to the loud outery of the nesting ducks that rose with flapping wings about me and circled round to splash into the water at a safe distance. By a dilapidated wooden landing stage I stopped to light a ciga-As I threw away the match a ragged tear in the deep moss that covered the planking caught my eye. I stooped to examine it. Under the moss the wood itself was splintered with a deep, fresh scar! I studied the rest of the landing stage without result. Neither the moss nor the exposed patches of woodwork showed any similar signs. The one fresh scar-that was all.

I was still considering the problem when Peace joined me. He was in high good humor. For a time he stared at the mark with his head on one side like a meditative sparrow. and then, seizing me by the arm, led me back by the way we had come.

"Picturesque, eh!" he said, pointing to the old pavilion. "It catches your artistic eye. Perhaps you will have time to make a sketch of it this afternoon."

"Nonsense," I said, irritably enough "Who shot this poor fellow?"

"No one." "What-suicide?"

"Nothing so simple, I'm afraid. Now don't lose your temper. You will understand within the hour. Come along."

Where are we going?"

To visit our esteemed friend, Jake Warner. There is just a chance he may show temper. Shall we risk it, Mr. Phillips, or shall we call the po-Reman from the house yonder?" I told him quite briefly that I would

see the policeman condemned first. Warner's cottage was a strawoverflow from the lake gurgled mo-

thatched, ivy-covered little place, built on the slope of the park. Beneath it a brook that carried the notonously by. A thin, long-legged man, who was digging in a patch of garden, stopped his work at sight of us and waited, leaning on his spade.

"Jake Warner, isn't it?" Peace inquired over the low fence of splitpine.

"Yes, str."

"I am Inspector Addington Peace of the Criminal Investigation Depart-

Warner said nothing, but I saw his fingers clench upon his spade, as he gave the detective stare for stare. "A fairly good breeding season for tinued the little man, with a benevoient interest.

There was still no reply "I understand the foxes are very

roublesome. Warner threw down his spade and strode up to where we stood. His eyes had in them the dumb agony of a wild thing in a trap.

"I am a married man, sir," he said. For my wife's sake take me away

"I have not come to arrest you, Jake Warner," said Peace. "If you are responsible for your master's death, it was by sheer accident. But the question is, are you responsible?" "No, sir, I am not. But I can never

"Perhaps it would be best if you explained.

We remained where we were, with the fence between us, while he told his story.

"It was on Monday afternoon, sir, said Jake Warner, addressing Addington Peace of the Criminal Investigation Department of Scotland Yard. I was crossing the public path that runs near the other end of the lake, when I fell in with a middle-aged, spectacled gentleman, who was strolling along with a tin collecting-case on his back, such as botanists use. We fell to talking, and one thing led to another, until, when I turned off down to the lake to see after my ducks, he came with me. He never meant no harm as I know of, but I would give all I have never to have seen him."

"What was he like?" asked the inspector.

"A short fellow, with a brown full beard and a slight stutter. pleasant he was to talk to; but this is outside the point, sir, as you will see. We walked down the causeway, and just before the pavilion what should we come across but three dead birds, all with their heads bitten clean off it made me wild, for the foxes have been plaguing me cruei this spring. Sir William never would have one shot, though he had given up hunting many years. As for the young master, I couldn't say as to his viewe, for I had never set eyes upon him.

The stranger, he sympathized very kindly with me, and I told him my troubles. 'How they can expect a keeper to rear a decent lot of wild duck with a plague of foxes in his midst, I'm dashed if I know,' I said. He allowed that a fox who would kill ducks like that was as bad as a maneating tiger. 'She's a cunning old vixen as won't let me get within shot of her,' i told him, 'but I've haif a mind to set a spring gun for her on the causeway here.

"Bless my soul, how that fellow laughed. He threw back his head and crowed with joy at my idea. 'A spring gun for a fox,' he says; 'why, keeper, it's the very thing! Think of the simplicity of it and the certainty of it and the security of it.' Those were hts words. After that he sobered down and began talking more serious. Did I really understand how to set a spring gun? I told him no; and then he explained how he had a friend from India who had often used them to kill jackals. Whether I did right or wrong, the fact is that I agreed to set the gun when he sent me the instructions.

"Well, sir, his letter arrived yes terday morning with careful little plans and all. I loaded my gun with buckshot and carried it down to the causeway shortly after dusk. I had lost several more ducks each day, and my mind was made up to have that vixen. I fixed the gun thread of strong cotton across the path and round the trigger. You may think I took a wicked risk, but I had hardly ever known any one to pass along the causeway in the daytime. far less at night. Yet, for safety's sake, I meant to take it up again at

"I walked home and sat smoking my pipe for a while. But I was worried and disturbed. I couldn't get it from my mind that there was danger in that spring gun left to itself as it were. Even if I bagged the old vixen some one might hear the shot and find the body. A dead fox would make me a marked man amongst all the hunting people about. I didn't like that thought neither. At last 1 couldn't stand it no longer, and set off back to the causeway. I was more than half-way when I heard the shot, and that set me running. When I saw the policeman I was mightly afraid he would be finding the vixen dead. That's why I lied to him."

"I know the rest, Warner," said Peace; "but I want a few details. Did you see any sign of another man?"

100,000 MARCH "No. sir." Where was Sir Andrew hit?" "The chest, sir; he got it full in the

"So I understood. A curious elevation of the muzzle, ch? Did you expect a fox over five feet high?" Peace brought out the words with sanap, but the keeper answered him without besitation.

"That is the point, sir," he said. That is why I am not responsible for the master's death. I set the gun at a level of eight inches from the ground, which I reckoned would take the fox about the shoulder. Some one altered the elevation of the muszle after ! had gone."

"The second forked stick that supported the gun was in the mud. Might It not have sunk under the weight, and thus raised the muzzle?"

"No, sir. I had pushed it through the mud down to the gravel. It was a good foot deeper when I went to look at it. A man must have used great force to get it so far through the

What became of the gun?" "After they carried Sir Andrew way, I must have gone off my head for awhile. What would they say to me for setting such a trap for my master? That was the only thing I could think about, I ran back and pulled up the sticks, and carried away the gun to the cottage here."

"But you saw the policeman arrest the man whom we may presume to be the murderer?"

"Yes, sir; but I was too wild to reason it out. I made up may mind this morning to tell them all about it at the inquest. That is the truth." 'Did you use the punt last night?"

"No, str. it must have been the man that was caught. I missed her this morning, and after a search found her in the reeds near the island where she had drifted. Though I don't see how you could have known anything about the punt, sir."

The fron-shod pole had chipped the landing-stage. The other man had ferried himself across rather than use the causeway. And now please fetch me the plans and the gun."

When Warner returned sitpped the envelope into his pocket, and examined the weapon with great care, suspping the lock twice.

"You had eased the trigger, eh?" "Yes, sir; I thought a light pull would be best, so I ofled and loosened the screws."

The little man handed it back to him and turned away, staring over the lake towards the distant woodlands, with his hands clasped behind his back.

"That fellow sir-he must have done it, don't you think?" asked the under-keeper.

"So it would seem, Warner," said Addington Peace over his shoulder.

It was eleven o'clock on the follow ing day when Peace was announced was sitting in the garden of my friend's cottage smoking my pipe and reading the paper. From within the villa came the sound of whistling that told of my host working at his Academy picture.

"Why, Peace," I said, "what brings you here?

He seated himself on a corner of the garden bench and lit a cigarette. "I went to London last night," he told me. "And as I had to pass your friend's house on the way from the station to Airtie Hall, I thought i would call in and see you."

"Any further news?" "I have had an interesting visit. lay and occasionally avert conflicts. Salem At the coming examination. The botanist with the beard has but "the sword will remain the final for students who wish to be admitted." tle tragedy, Mr. Phillips."

"Do you mean-

Yes, I believe him to be the murderer of Sir Andrew Cheyne." "Then the man under arrest is in-

nocent." "That scarcely describes him-but

he had no hand in this crime." "Confound you and your riddles," I "Where is the murderer? Have unid.

you caught him?" There is a carriage at the door. If you care to come along perhaps I may be able to show him to you.

it was a swift horse from the stables of Airlie Hall, and we covered the ground quickly. There was little talk between us. Twelve had struck when we stepped out at the overhanging porch of the old gray mansion and walked through into the library that overlooked the terrace and the lake. By the window, twisting his cap in his nervous fingers, stood Jake Warner. Peace nodded him a good morning. and then elipped away with a word of apology.

(CHRONICLES TO BE CONTINUED.)



MULE DEVOURED THE PIANO

Animal Totally Wrecked a Musical Instrument Near Him on a Steamboat's Deck.

"Mule ate plane shipped. Send another next boat." This message was received recently by a local piano house from an "up the river" purchaser whose \$500 instrument had been forwarded via Mississippi river steamboat. In its usual pine box the plano was installed on the lower deck next to a lanky, sleepy looking mule bound for the cotton fields of the upper bends. Although provided with

ripped off a portion of the outer box, disposing of six octaves of black and white fvory keys, running the chromatic scale up to "G" in the treble clef. He had gnawed away the mahogany panels in front, masticated felt dampers and hammers by the dozen. completely wrecking the melodious "insides" of the instrument. Steamboat Bill, stoking a boiler twenty feet away, said the mule "must have had his foot on the soft pedal," as he did not hear a note. When discovered the animal was unconcernedly gazing longingly across the river at a grass covered levee. It will cost \$300 to repair the plano.-New Orleans corre the ducks, I should imagine," con plenty of oats and hay, the mule spondent Montgomery Journal

ON MONTENEGRO

Austrian Troops Rush Forward By Land and Sea.

Italy Expected to Support Austria Greek and Servian Forces Face Bulgarians.

London One hundred thousand Austrian troops now are moving in the direction of the Montenegrin frontier, according to an Antivari dispatch to A large number of Austrian troops also are proceeding to Antivari by sea. A Vienna dispatch to the Times says

that in the event of Austria attempting to coerce Montenegro, there is little doubt that she would be supported by Italy, which probably would occupy Santa Quaranta and Aviona, while Austria would proceed against Lovchen Mountain and Scutari.

In order to avoid needlessly offending Russia, the action against Scutari gild be carried out through Albania, not from Herzegovina.

The Sofia correspondent of the Times learns that the Greek and Serrian forces now massed in Southern Macedonia aggregate 220,000. They are confronted by three Bulgarian di visions, totalling 60,000 men. Almost all the remaining Bulgarian forces are still before Bulair and Tchatalja.

The Bulgarian government, the dispatch adds, is exhausting every means to arrive at a friendly arrangement with Servia and Greece, but the danger of a conflict is still imminent.

PLEA FOR "OREGON" MADE

First Is Request. Salem, Or,-School children to the number of 61,200 in this state have signed a petition asking President Woodrow Wilson to direct that the battleship Oregon be designated to head the fleet that first passes through The petition of the Panama canal. the Oregon school children is in part as follows:

"The incident of history which, more than all others, impressed America with the immediate need of an inter-oceanic waterway at Panama was the famous voyage of the battleship Oregon. That marvelous race of a great battleship around the continent to fight the battles of an alien people staggered the world. She is at once the most famous and most loved vessel in all the fleet of the Great Republic. Therefore we, the school children of the commonwealth of the State of Oregon, whose name this floating fortress so proudly bears, respectfully petition that the battleship Oregon be the first ship to pass through the canal from ocean to ocean.

Sword Final, Says Prince.

Berlin - Crown Prince Frederick election William, in writing the preface to a book, "Germany in Arms," just pub- a city," said Mr. Proctor, "the work lished, of which he is reputed to be of building and extending streets will the author, exhibits himself, the fu- be started. ture German emperor, as a disbeliever improvement has been held up pending in the possibility of ever abolishing the decision.

He declares that diplomacy "may destepped into a leading part in our lit- and decisive factor until the world's to the bar there will be none who will end.

many's unfortunate geographical position, and warns his countrymen that Supreme Court Clerk Moreland, the German army and navy must be of efficiency, and he appeals to all Germans to be ready to sacrifice their blood and their possessions.

of age who will be allowed to take the field worker for the juvenile interpretation at the coming quiz, and fair branch of the Oregon Eman blood and their possessions.

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Manila Victory Noted.

over the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, 15 years ago, was celebrated here Thursday night at the annual reunion and banquet of the Society of Manila the famous battle, including Rear Admiral A. S. Walker, who commanded the cruiser Concord and the only survivor of the six officers who commanded vessels of Dewey's fleet, were gathered around the banquet table to do honor to Admiral George Dewey, president of the association.

Slave Painting Refused.

the Highest Bidder," representing a tion has been made. negro slave woman, with her child, standing on the auction block, was rejected by the Brooklyn Institute hecause it might "tend to keep alive memories that had better be forgot-The picture was painted by Harry Roseland, a well-known Brook-Brooklyn mayor.

Police Herd "Pie" Beggars.

Washington, D. C. - Hungry jobhunters, among them many who have despaired of gaining the official pie places at either side of the station. counter through official influence, gathered in such numbers Wednesday night in the vicinity of the Civil Service commission headquarters that the police reserves were called out.

Aviator Wins \$10,000 Purse.

Paris-Ernest F. Guillaux, a French airman, whose aeroplane flight on Sunday last when he traveled from Biarritz, France, to Kollum, Holland. a distance of nearly 1000 miles, won a prize of \$10,000 and the Pommery, or Traction company and the Pacific Railsingle-day distnace, cup.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

General News of the Industrial and Educational Developmen and Progress of Rural Communities, Public Institutions, Rt.

HIGHWAY CHANGE OPPOSED MEDFORD PLANS CAND

Grants Pass Men Want Pacific Route Left as at Present.

Grants Pass Eighty-five enthusiastic business men gathered at luncheon here Wednesday for the purpose of lated Saturday at a joint meet discussing the proposed change of the members of the commercial cla Pacific Highway from Southern Ore- the Merchants' association to see gon to Eastern Oregon. It was the canning factory in the valley. gon to Eastern Oregon.

soutiment of those present that the Pucific Highway should remain a permanent factor through the Rogue River valley; that with the Suklyous on W. F. Langer, G. Dohn H. Ca. the south, the Coast range on the west and the Calaponias on the north the Steenstrup and E. A. Welch stural scenery of the country affords named, to solicit subscriptions the most attractive stretch that could be covered in a day by automobile in been started. It is expected the

That such attractions as the Jose phine County caves, and historic Table a Rock, Mount Laughlin and Crater called, the outline of the pro-Lake, and miles of mountain streams cannery presented and the \$200. Lake, and miles of mountain streams and good roads warrant the support of be loaned without interest to the organizations and counties in Western Oregon was declared.

Resolutions expressing Grants Pass sentiment and personal letters will be sent to Oregon congressmen, together with scenie views along the Pacific Highway through Josephine county.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR INDIANS

Chemawa School Appoints Full-Blood Indian Librarian.

Chemawa - Superintendent Wads worth has received notice that within short time he will receive a new range for use in the kitchen at the Sa lem Indian school, a new electric dough mixer which has been needed it the bakery for many years, and a That Battleship Go Through Canal power lawn mower for use on the pacios lawns at the school.

The new auditorium is to be supplied with modern equipment, consisting of a drop curtain, another for use in enection with the moving picture machine, and three different sets of

The library which was established a few weeks ago is to have an appropriation of \$300 with which to purchase books for the use of the red children. Paul Kinniook, a full-blood Indian from Alaska, has been appointed li-

Incorporation Held Legal.

Salem-The Supreme court held that the incorporation of Bay City, which, it is believed, will in a few years become an important shipping point, is The high court sustained a lecision of Circuit Judge Galloway, of Tillamook county. W. E. Proctor, of Bay City, brought

the suit as a relator in the name of the state to have determined the legal status of the municipality. boundary lines in the petitions for the election and those given in the court records were not the same, and it was feared the discrepancy invalidated the marketing agencies, is new sectorion.

Much sewer and street

Bar Admittance Expensive.

be admitted unless they receive at The author points out that Ger-least a per cent of 70 on examination papers, according to a statement by

kept continually at the highest point of age who will be allowed to take the field worker for the juvenile inde Nor will there be any under 21 years

The examination will be held June Manila Victory Noted,
Washington, D. C.—Dewey's victory and the same day that the new Justice of the Supreme court goes into office.

Milwaukie May Get City Delivery.

Milwaukie-This place will have a Twenty-two of the survivors of trial mail delivery in the near future, according to reports received here. Application was made for delivery of been made and predicted that Ca mail by carrier from the Milwaukie postoffice, and Representative Hawley secured a promise that an inspector will be sent to investigate and report on the establishment of trial city delivery. Milwaukle has from 1200 to 1300 people, and it is considered certain that the place will secure perma-New York - A painting entitled "To nent city delivery when an investiga-

Railroads Will Raise Fill.

Chemawa - The Southern Pacific Railway company is planning on raising six feet the fill across Lake Labish in order to increase the efficiency of the road and at the same time lyn artist, and offered to the institute lighten the labor of the trainmen. Charles A. Schieren, a former For many years difficulty has been experienced in handling heavy trains over this part of the road. Trains going in either direction and stopping at this station found it difficult to get over the grade when stopping in the low

Railroads Ordered to Appear.

Salem-Calling upon several railroads of the state to appear before it on May 14 to justify its present regulation relative to block signals, passing tracks, switches and operation of trains, the State Railroad commission issued orders to the Southern Pacific, Portland, Eugene & Eastern, Salem, Falls City & Western, Oregon Electric, O.-W. R. & N., Walla Walla Valley way & Navigation company.

Merchants and Growers of R Valley Behind Move.

Medford-As an auxiliary to t rigation movement plans were fe

W. F. Isaacs, George T. Collins, \$2000 will be readily secured.

As soon as this money is obtained mass meeting of ranchers at posed association. The cannery will be similar a one now operating at Puyaliup,

Ranchers may subscribe for sta \$10 a share to any amount, but subscriber will have but one. The profits of the association operating expenses will be di among the growers. A large board of directors small executive board will be m

and if the cannery is built a pra man from Puyallup will be seen take active charge.

LATE HARVEST IS ADV

Oregon Growers Told How tol ket Pears Successfully.

Washington, D. C. — If the growers of the Rogue River sale Oregon, will delay picking their for at least two weeks beyond usual picking season, and then poly cool and store their fruit pa shipment, they can, in the judg of the department of agriculture tend their marketing season as seven weeks and get better pro-the East, after the California

This conclusion is reached by 1 Stubenrauch and H. J. Ramser, were sent to the Rogue River on last fall to make experiments to mine just how the Oregon pears ers can handle their fruit in ore market it to heat advantage is East, Their report, which can much technical information for pear-growers of the Rogue Rivers and other sections of Oregon # pears are grown commercially, just been published in Bureau of B Industry Circular No. 114.

Crop Contracts Secured Hood River—The management the Apple Growers' association 5

River's new amalgamation of "Now that we are certain we have for the shipment of the year's and strawberry crops. portion of next week will be pass the members of the associate holding a series of meetingsh important sections of the where all of the details of the

selling concern will be explained P. S. Davidson has been president of the new association W. Hooker, secretary, the having been a member of the but directors of the Apple Growers's

Clatsop Pupils Progressing

O. H. Byland, visiting schools in county, with a view of around interest of the pupils and pares the work.

Mr. Harrington is familiar this branch of school work and he ceeded in enlisting pupils and pain the industrial work. He mented the county superintended county will rank high among ther ties of the state in its exhibital agricultural and industrial, at the cal and state fairs.

Ashland Farmers to Exhibit Ashland - Agriculturalists is locality are preparing to enter lists of Eastern land show exhibits recommendation of the Oregon Popment league. Inasmuch State Immigration commission the expense of forwarding and a iting these displays, it is plans gather a large collection of dry and other products from this as during the coming summer and them.

them classified in a systematic = to forward East in due season.

Students Study Engines. Oregon Agricultural College vallis Advanced students of power machinery at the celler studying four types of tracks gines which recently have shipped to the college for dense

tion purposes. The students are testing the gines on the campus and college

Eight-Hour Day to Be Unge Salem-Plans to initiate a bil viding for an eight-hour day gen for women were announced by Co E. Hofer and a mass meeting held here to promote the move.