

WHERE'S EMILY?

by Carolyn Wells

CHAPTER XXXVII

"A remarkable letter," he said, cryptically, as he refolded it and put it in his pocket. "A very remarkable letter."

"Is it from the kidnaper, really?" asked Aunt Judy, wishing this queer man would talk more freely.

"It may be," he said. "It's one of those things that will take some thinking over. But I can tell you this, right now, there will be one to meet you at the tryst to-morrow at midnight."

"Abel Collins said, 'I told you not to right out loud, and the others smiled and looked the same message.'"

Everett Craven, who had not seen the note, asked for a perusal, and Stone handed it to him, watching in the lawyer's face as he read the lines.

But Craven showed no ulterior knowledge, and not much interest as he returned it, saying:

"How can you all tell it's a fake? To me it looks perfectly all right. Why didn't the kidnaper write it?"

Mr. Craven, the first thing a detective has to learn is to distinguish between a true communication and a spurious one."

"Yes? Go on."

"I am not giving a lecture of lessons in sleuthing, but I will tell you one or two fundamental rules. A kidnaper is almost invariably an illiterate man. This isn't a theory, it is a proved fact. Therefore, a note from a kidnaper concerning ransom, would nine times out of ten, be more or less illiterate in language or penmanship. The typewriter does away with poor penmanship, of course. But grammar remains. Now, the experienced detective can tell real lapses from grammar as differentiated from pretended lapses. That illiterate though it sounds, was not written by an ignoramus, but by one who pretends to be an ignoramus. First of all, there is not probably a human being in the United States today, who writes the personal pronoun 'I' with a small letter. Children go to school long enough to learn that, however soon they may leave school after. The same with the other capitals. Anyone who can use a typewriter at all, knows the capital shift, and anyone who could compose that letter, which is fairly well made up, is not so ignorant as to write 'Miller' with a small 'm'. Pretended illiteracy is one of the easiest frauds to discover that I know of."

"Then why was the letter written at all?" asked Sayre.

"There are several answers to that; the right one I do not yet know. As to going to the Miller house at midnight, go if you like, Mrs. Bell. I feel sure there will be nobody there, but if there is, and if you present him with ten thousand dollars, remember that it is a present. You will get no returns for it."

"But he says he will give me back my niece—and he spelled 'niece' wrong."

"Niece is 'flicky word,' he said, a slight twinkle in his eye. "It may well be that the writer of that letter didn't know how to spell it himself."

"Why isn't it right?" said Betty, taking the paper to look at, and speaking as innocently that they had to laugh.

"You see," said Stone, "I think that word can't be counted one way or another, for or against the writer who wants us to think him a punksull."

"The way you put it," Aunt Judy said after some thought, "I've decided not to go out there tonight."

"There speaks a wise woman," Stone applauded. "But if you must have some spy stationed. For my deductions from the letter may be all wrong, and the miscreant may bob up serenely after all. I propose that we dress up some man in some of Mrs. Bell's costumes and send him out there at the witching hour, so as to be on the safe side."

"Then the thing to do," said Pete Gibby, "is to pick the chap who's nearest the lady in size and also the best looking. I offer my services."

"They laughed at his words, but Stone looked at him appraisingly and said:

"You're the one for it, my lad. Don't take the lady's best clothes."

"No, there may be a scrimmage," and Pete smiled at the thought.

After a while they talked over the matter, Abel Collins and Lawyer Craven went home, assuring the detective that they would be at his call at any time if needed.

It was after eleven, so the family set about rigging Pete up in a gown, coat and hat of Aunt Judy's. Betty cleverly fashioned a wig whose curls of cotton wool were so realistic that Aunt Judy declared she would sometimes wear it herself when her hair wasn't curled.

Pete carried no ten thousand dollars, but he carried a serviceable automatic, which he hoped he would have no occasion to use.

He was all ready some time before the witching hour, and declared he meant to start at once and await developments at the tryst.

They watched him from between half-closed blinds as he made his way down the park at Kinwood and out to the road. Along the footpath they could follow the plumed figure, across the bridge of the big ravine, and then Pete turned in at the Miller house and the watchers lost sight of him.

They went to their rooms, but no one undressed, for they must know the result of the expedition.

The time passed slowly. Betty and Aunt Judy watched from one window and Sayre from another. Stone threw himself on a couch in his sitting room, knowing he would be called if anything happened.

He thought over the knowledge of the case he had gleaned that evening and tabulated the informa-

tion in his methodical mind.

Then he heard Betty's flying feet on the stairs, and he knew the farce, as he felt sure it would be, was over.

As Gibby was coming in the front door, Stone joined the group in time to hear him say: "Sat there an hour, and not a darned soul showed up!—stunne a drink."

Monday morning Fleming Stone came down to the dining room in a hopeful frame of mind, and announced the fact.

"Why are you hopeful?" queried Pete, not with undue curiosity, but with deep interest.

"First, because I feel pretty sure we'll get Miss Duane back, and, too, because I hope to track down the villain who is responsible for her absence."

"Have you any idea who he is?"

"Frankly, no. But I hope to find out. I don't mind admitting it is the strangest case I have ever been up against. It presents the most seemingly incongruous features, and has some apparently inexplicable conditions. But, it is an axiom among detectives that the more bizarre a case is, the easier it is of solution. I'm not ready to agree with that, unqualifiedly, but there's a lot in it."

After breakfast, they held conference in the library, a pleasant room of moderate size, whose furniture and appointments greatly pleased Fleming Stone.

"This is a house after my own heart," he exclaimed, enthusiastically. "If ever I can retire to country, or semi-country life, Hilldale for me, and a home as nearly like this as possible. Do you expect to live here after your marriage?" he asked of Rodney, so casually that the young man could have hugged him out of sheer gratitude.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow)

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NEW WILLYS SIX LIKED BY LADIES

While its speed attainment of 72 miles an hour makes the Willys six outstanding in the low priced field and attracts general commendation, its less sensational features are seen as having special appeal for the ever increasing number of women drivers who find its arrangement of control and simplicity of operation among its chief attractions.

With its trim lines, tasteful upholstery and rich colors, the Willys six presents an appearance as far above its class as its performance.

"Finger tip control," featured on all Willys-Overland cars, removes the objections so many women had to driving. No longer is it necessary to search about the foot to locate the starter button on the floor. All operations of starting the motor, switching on or off the lights and sounding the horn are controlled by the button located in the center of the steering wheel. With "finger-tip control" it is never necessary to remove a hand from the steering wheel in traffic, and this advantage is considered by many as important as was the self-starter which first made automobiles practical for women drivers.

100% protection against theft of car and accessories. The electrical theft signal demonstrated at the Roseburg Garage.—Adv.

Eat delicious sandwiches and live forever. Brand's Read Stand.

Picnicking at Idleyla Park—Adv.

GOING TO CALIFORNIA

TRAVEL this summer by the picturesque Redwood Highway, between Grants Pass and San Francisco, via Eureka—a direct route leading through giant forests of the oldest and tallest of trees. The highway reaches its scenic climax in the REDWOOD EMPIRE OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY.

On the way, you can investigate the varied advantages of Humboldt County which includes artesian—equable climate, fertile soil, progressive cities.

Send for illustrated booklet Humboldt County Board of Trade Eureka, California



The best rule in jelly-making... add the warm sugar to the fruit syrup...

a little at a time

Hills Bros have the best rule for roasting coffee. A few pounds at a time—never in bulk. This continuous process, Controlled Roasting, develops a flavor that no other coffee has.

Fresh from the original vacuum pack. Easily opened with the key.

HILLS BROS COFFEE

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LAKES AND STREAMS STOCKED WITH FISH

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 24—The expenditure by the federal government of more than \$5,000,000 during the next five years to keep lakes and streams stocked with game fish assures bigger and better baskets for the disciples of Sir

Izaak Walton, according to a statement issued by the American Automobile Association today.

Pointing out that there were more than six million fishing and hunting licenses issued last year, the national motoring body predicted that the number would be greatly increased this season. The prediction is based on facts assembled by A. A. A. touring bureaus

throughout the country which show that the demand for touring information to fishing localities and the application for fishing licenses is greater this early in the season than ever before.

"The place which this sport occupies in the vacation life of the nation is seen in the passage by congress last month of the White bill, framed and sponsored by Con-

gressman Wallace White of Maine, which provides for the establishment of thirty-one fish hatcheries by the bureau of fisheries, supplementing those already maintained in forty states, with an expenditure of over \$2,000,000 in the next five years," the A. A. A. statement says.

"The hatcheries will be scattered from Maine to California, and from Minnesota to Louisiana and Texas,

supplying areas not cared for heretofore, and will be devoted chiefly to game and warm water fish. From these the lakes and streams will be kept stocked as practice of the sport by the constantly increasing army of fishermen depletes them."

Fishing tackle at Idleyla Park—Adv.

NOTICE

Bids for audit of school clerk's books will be opened by Boundary Board July 3, (Thursday) 1930. This audit must be done in office of County School Superintendent. Boundary Board reserves right to reject any or all bids.

(Signed) Edith S. Ackert, County School Superintendent.

This season YOU CERTAINLY CAN AFFORD GOODYEAR'S



THERE never has been a time when the tire-buyer's money could buy as much as right now.

Rubber's cheap—and consequently tire prices are the lowest they've ever been.

People with an eye to values are seizing this chance and making the most of it.

They're buying Goodyear Tires—because right now they can buy them for as little as they used to pay for inferior or unknown tires.

Why are they singling out Goodyear Tires with especial

insistence as against all others? Because Goodyear Tires are definitely superior in tread and carcass, the two main parts of a tire.

The Goodyear All-Weather Tread is superior in traction.

The Goodyear Supertwist Carcass is superior in vitality and long life.

You are not asked to accept these statements without inquiry.

Any Goodyear Dealer will be glad to demonstrate the facts. The facts certainly are: Goodyear Tires do give greater value.

As far back as 1916, it became a

fact that more people ride on Goodyear Tires than on any other kind.

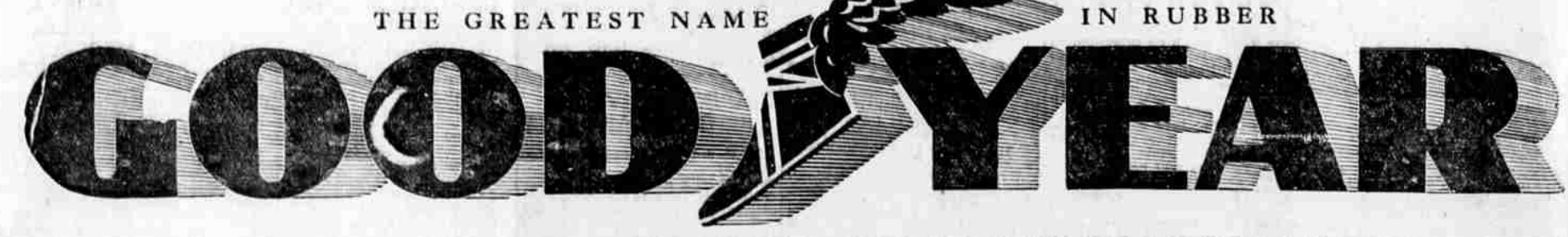
Every year since that time it has been increasingly true that more people ride on Goodyear Tires than on any other kind.

Today this preference for Goodyear runs into millions: millions more people ride on Goodyear Tires than on any other kind.

More Goodyear Tires than any other kind annually leave motor car factories on new cars—more Goodyear Tires go into service through the great Goodyear dealer organization—more Goodyear Tires are used by transcontinental, urban and interurban buses.

There can be only one conclusion: Goodyear Tires must be better—and at present prices they are a matchless bargain.

Now is the time to get yours.



IT WILL PAY YOU TO SEE THE SUPERTWIST DEMONSTRATION

Healy-Wood Tire Co. at Ned Dixon's Super Station

Stephens and Mosher On the Highway