

GOLD BULLETS

by Charles G. Booth

SYNOPSIS: Furie traps Peebles in the laundry saloon and prepares to kill him. Furie believes that Peebles intends to convict him of Ogdan's murder. Dillon follows Peebles and is waiting outside the room. Throwing Furie off guard by a ruse, Peebles lands a knockout blow on Furie's chin. Pretending to plead for mercy, Peebles fires at the ceiling, screams and slumps to the floor. Dillon crashes into the room, wheels in surprise at Peebles' voice, tries to shoot him but Peebles' gun is the quicker. Dillon drops dead. Dillon, who is Luther MacNair,

Chapter 47

"A SIMPLE ACT OF JUSTICE"

Jerry gave me something to drink and I felt better.

"Quite a 'family party,' I remarked acidly. 'Can't a man keep an appointment without half a dozen people clanking after him?'"

"He might have killed you, Uncle John!" Lucy wailed, pressing me to her again.

"Huh!" I said grimly. "I suppose it was you who got Benton to come."

"How did you know it was MacNair, John?" Henry asked humbly.

"You'd have known it was MacNair, too, if you hadn't had your eyes elsewhere."

Henry flushed. I felt sorry for him and I turned my attention to Nathan Hyde, who had been eyeing me with an ironic grin.

"Still looking for that mine transfer, Hyde?" I demanded.

That ruffled his smoothness a bit, but he replied suavely enough.

"No, we were looking for you, Peebles," and he chuckled.

"See here, Uncle John!" Jerry cut in unexpectedly. "You were supposed to be Watson and you turn out to be Holmes. And the supposed Holmes is the villain."

"Thanks for the comparison, Jerry," I said modestly. "Holmes took upon himself the role of Watson as a matter of expediency."

"You mean you knew all along that MacNair killed Andrew?" Henry exclaimed.

"Well, since the day after it happened," I admitted. "But my evidence was incomplete. I didn't believe it would stand up under the attacks of the battery of eminent lawyers MacNair—Dillon—would summon to his defense. I waited for him to force the issue. And he did—tonight. I'll give you the evidence item for item."

I rifled the pages of my little red notebook.

"Item One," I began.

"Today is Tuesday, Jerry left his father at 15 minutes past nine Friday evening. At exactly half past nine I was called on the telephone, presumably by Andrew Ogdan. The speaker asked me to come over at once. His voice was strained and unnatural, but I had no reason to believe that it wasn't Andrew. On the way over I saw a man in Jerry's white flannel flying down the drive. I found Andrew dead in the library with his left hand closed around the telephone receiver. The inference at first glance was that Jerry had killed his father as Andrew telephoned me, then ran for his life. But while most people hold the receiver of a telephone to the left ear, Andrew was dead in the left ear and he always held it to his right ear with his right hand. Yet I found him holding it in his left.

"I contend, therefore, that it was not Andrew who telephoned me, but the man who killed him; that his murderer was not Jerry, because Jerry would have known which hand to place upon the receiver; and that the murdered telephoned me to come over so that I would see him escaping in Jerry's clothes and conclude that Jerry had killed Andrew."

"Item Two—after Furie left the Ogdan home and before he called Jerry into the library, Andrew wrote a card to MacNair. MacNair returned to his house shortly after the card was left there, and not several hours later, as he pretended; he left for the Ogdan home at once; saw a light in the Ogdan library and a sense of danger sent him there, instead of to the front door; he overheard Andrew telling Jerry the story of his 'terrific' days, without, however, disclosing to him Dillon's present identity. MacNair realized if he would preserve his own life and liberty he must make away with Andrew as soon as Jerry had gone. There was no moon and he crouched on the little raised-in balcony without being seen.

"My evidence of this is flimsy, MacNair was having a stecco room built on to his bungalow. I found traces of plasterer's cement on his shoes and a deposit of it on

the balcony.

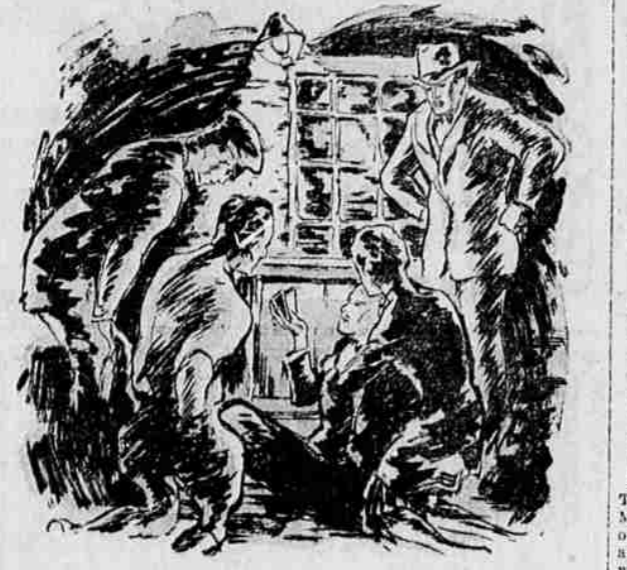
"Item three—my den was entered before dawn the next morning. I am not sure why MacNair wanted the pistol I had bought from Hyde and which he had overheard Jerry and Andrew talking about. Perhaps the idea of a message suggested itself. As it happened, I went in and caught MacNair. We struggled. Lucy and Mrs. Moffit came as I was about done for. MacNair took himself off, pretended to collide with some

helped seeing them.

I held up the little red notebook.

"Item six—some of my conclusions are written here. When MacNair and I were in my den Saturday night, I put the notebook down on my desk and left the room for a minute or two. When I returned I found the book had been disturbed—as I had expected. I wanted MacNair to know I believed him guilty.

"Item seven—Sunday morning MacNair stopped his car at my



Peebles' notebook held the amazing solution of Andrew Ogdan's murder

one outside, fired a couple of shots through his hat, and returned. And then MacNair made another mistake. He said he was in the Ogdan grounds and that he heard me call out.

"I did not call out, MacNair and I fought in silence.

"Item four—Polyandra followed me into the den. Somehow, she got tangled up between us. I heard her yowl and I was sure she lashed out with a paw. After the struggle I found a tiny drop of blood congealing on one of her claws. She hadn't scratched me, so she must have drawn the blood of my opponent.

"There was a scratch on MacNair's right wrist. He at once pulled up his sleeve and showed it to me—obviously to disarm suspicion.

"Item five—MacNair examined the cartridges before I did. A few minutes later, when I called his attention to the nick on the one that contained the note, he pretended he had not seen them. That was nonsense. He couldn't have

house and told me he was going to Los Angeles. I purposely glanced at his speedometer. It registered 6,825 miles. Last night, after the car was supposed to have covered a distance of 250 miles, it registered 7,010 miles—an increase of only 185 miles. MacNair went to Portland to plant Jerry's flannels.

"Item eight and nine—last night I telephoned to an old colleague of mine in Los Angeles and asked him to get information I wanted. He called me back this morning. He told me, first:

"That MacNair was involved in the Phalanx oil swindle and that he had to return \$100,000 before the end of this week or face a criminal court action. He demanded \$100,000 of Andrew.

"Second: That MacNair was discharged by the Flinkerton Detective Agency 30 years ago for accepting a bribe of \$10,000."

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The story of how Peebles clinched the case against MacNair is in tomorrow's chapter.

Shirtwaist Frock



This picture shows Mrs. Robert McAdoo of New York wearing one of the new shirtwaist frocks. It is an indefinite tan and white print with tabs of white grosgrain edged in brown, for the tie and similar tabs of the frock's material simulating fringes on the skirt. The collar of white is quite plain.

SEEK CHECKERBOARD TAXI

PORTLAND, Ore., June 28 (AP)—A taxicab with an exterior decoration resembling a large checkerboard, stolen last night after William Travis, driver, was bound, gagged and robbed of \$3 by his fare, was sought by police today.

The Weekly Rest

Why one day's rest in seven, and not, say, in ten? Scientists are agreed that the former is exactly what we need. On an average, six days' work reduces our reserves of mental and physical energy to a point where replenishment, by rest, is necessary.

EIGHT KILLED

ANTOFAGASTA, Chile, June 28 (AP)—Eight persons are known to have been killed and seventeen injured in an explosion company today.

The explosion occurred while the mining crew was getting ready for a blast. Five of those injured are in a serious condition.

VIOLINIST CRITICALLY ILL

BIRMINGHAM, June 28 (AP)—Eugene Ysaie, famous Belgian violinist whose right leg was amputated yesterday, was considered to be in a precarious condition today.

Ysaie, who is seventy years old, has been suffering from diabetes.



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"MY FIRST RULE for healthful eating," said one of the foremost food scientists in this country, "would be to insist on at least one dish of raw vegetable salad and at least one raw fruit every day."

"My second rule would be very similar—to eat at least one cooked vegetable and one cooked fruit every day. You can vary the fruits and vegetables according to the season, their price, and your taste."

His next remark emphasized the value of sugar in making fruits and vegetables so palatable that people would eat them, not simply for their beneficial results, but for general enjoyment of their flavor. "Sugar," he explained, "is the greatest of all condimental foods. It brings out the natural flavor of fruits and vegetables."

It is important that people enjoy the food they eat. Otherwise they will not eat a varied enough diet. Sugar, nature's most perfect flavor, plays a part in making almost all the foods we eat more inviting.

A pinch of sugar improves the flavor of nearly every vegetable. Remember a dash of sugar in cereal, in tea or coffee, in all milk drinks. Most foods are more delicious and nourishing with sugar. The Sugar Institute.

Many Bargains Listed on Want Ad Page

Swampy Plain and Shallow Sea

Featured America In Coal Age

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP)—What North America looked like several hundred million years ago is described in a report to the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

That was when the coal beds were forming.

"Evidences of the life of Pennsylvanian time in North America," says Dr. Raymond C. Moore, state

geologist of Kansas, in this report, "are plentiful and varied. There are not only swamps of fossils in the marine deposits, but in many of the formations laid down on land there is a profusion of organic remains.

"The lands seem to have been well watered, with wide lowlands and swampy areas that bore a rankly luxuriant vegetation. The

plant record far surpasses that of any earlier geologic period, and it compares in completeness with that of later times.

"Amphibians and reptiles, varying in size and degree of advancement, paddled in ponds and rivers and waddled on the land. Large insects crawled about or dripped through the air. In fresh waters there were fishes, mollusks and numerous ostracodes.

"The shallow seas teemed with life, which, like that today, was probably more abundant in individuals and species than the life of the land. Among the plants, there were lime-secreting algae and doubtless other sorts of seaweeds. Animal life consisted mainly of bottom-living invertebrates, but there were planktonic and neck-tonic forms, the latter including fishes, some of which must have attained large size.

"Large, thin-walled cells and the broad absence of growth rings in woody plants of the Pennsylvanian in North America indicate equable climatic conditions, and that rankness and other features of vegetation mean ample moisture.

"The uniformity and very great areal extent of many of the Pennsylvanian coal beds and immediately associated strata can mean only that a featureless swampy plain extended throughout the area of coal disposition."

New terminal facilities in Montreal for the Canadian national railways are to be constructed at a cost of \$50,000,000.

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