

# The Double Cross

By A. E. THOMAS

## THE STORY

Jim Stanley, New York business man, orders his desk telephone taken to his home, intending to finish his dictation there. He has a partner, Doris Colby, in love with Doris Colby. Stanley proposes to Doris to determine which shall first propose to Doris. Waterman's secretary and mistress, has overheard his conversation with Stanley and presents Waterman's plan to desert her. Waterman says he is penniless and must make a rich marriage. He urges Nina to tell Doris that Stanley has wronged her (Nina). Doris admits to her father her interest in both men, but is unable to decide which to marry. Nina tells Doris her story, exacting a promise that Doris will tell the source of her information. Doris is convinced of Stanley's duplicity and is brookhearted, realizing that it is Stanley she loves. Waterman proposes and Doris accepts him. Stanley accepts the situation, and at a wedding presents Doris his share of the business to Waterman. He arranges with his secretary to resign and to take charge of his other business interests. He is going to India. Doris tells Waterman part of Nina's story and he promises to "try" to find the girl. Pressed for payment of a big gambling debt by Bronson, Waterman quits him with news of his engagement to the wealthy Doris Colby.

of admittance, and though her presence was not noted by any other of the hundreds who were in the church, she was to the bridegroom the most conspicuous person there. Despite all his poise, as he stood at the altar with Doris at his side, he felt like a man who rather expects to be shot in the back at any moment. But though Nina's presence was noted by no one inside the church, with the distinguished exception of the bridegroom, it was distinctly observed by one of the numerous individuals who crowded the sidewalk outside the door to watch the wedding party as it came from the church.

Frank Wilson was not invited to the wedding, but he went, none the less, as far as he could go without a card of admittance, and he was, to say the least, interested when he saw Nina come out. He had noted with surprise the withdrawal of that young woman from the office, but its exact significance he could not fathom. This event had occurred before the publication of the Waterman Colby engagement. That announcement had interested Wilson even more keenly in view of the continued absence of Miss Morgan, so that he made bold one day, shortly after, to speak to Waterman about it.

"Oh, yes," said Waterman, "she's gone for good."

"May I ask if you dismissed her?" inquired Wilson.

"Oh, no," responded Waterman, "got another job somewhere, I believe. Glad she's gone. Been getting a little careless lately."

Now Wilson reflected to himself, as he stood on the edge of the crowd that gathered about the striped awning that led from the portals of St.

Bartholomew's to the curbing, and noted the exit of Nina amid the throng of wedding guests—knowing that the entrance to the church had been strictly by card—He reflected that the weddings of Wall Street business men are not commonly attended by secretaries who have "getting careless lately," and whose employers are glad to see them leave the office.

The wedding journey was brief, being limited to six weeks at Palm Beach, on account, said the society paragraphs, of the extensive business interests of the bridegroom. These business interests were practically in the hands of Wilson during these six weeks; that is to say they were managed precisely as Stanley would have managed them had he been there. Upon Waterman's return he tried to replace Wilson as promptly as possible, but the men whom he tried out as Wilson's successors turned out to be somewhat unsatisfactory, ever by Waterman's not altogether elevated standards. Consequently Wilson held on.

Now that his word was law in the business, Waterman began to allow his instincts free play. At heart a gambler, it was not long before he had pretty thoroughly identified the interests of the business with his own personal commitments in the street, a thing which had been impossible as long as Stanley had remained at the helm. It is true that in those days Waterman had managed to involve himself in various speculative enterprises which turned out badly, but they remained his own. The position of the firm was in no way affected by them. Now it was different. Wilson had ventured to file various respectful protests from time to time as he noted the course which events were taking. His objections had been waved aside—pleasantly at first, but finally in a way which silenced him.

"Wilson," said Waterman, on the occasion of his last protest, "I have kept you in the office to assist me, not advise me. If you're content with this arrangement, I shall be glad to have you stay until I can replace you. If not, you had better go at once."

Wilson accepted the rebuff and stayed. He thought vaguely that possibly his continued presence might in some way be useful to the absent Stanley. But there came a time when he felt that merely from the standpoint of self-protection he must get out. That moment came when he realized that Waterman's business foardiness had become something worse. He discovered that securities belonging to customers, and left in care of the firm for safekeeping, had been hypothecated by Waterman as collateral for certain speculative ventures of his own. This did not shock him, for by this time he thoroughly understood Waterman's character—and it surprised him. For the risks of this sort of thing were so great, so pregnant with disaster, that he had not thought the man would have sinned them. However, there it was, high time to be gone.

So one morning he entered Waterman's private office and took the hall by the horns. "Mr. Waterman," he

## CHAPTER VII—Continued

"In the first place to get the news. In the second place to have a little understanding with you."

"Such as?"

"Such as this. Stanley and I are a good deal alike in one respect. We're both of us sick of business. He's going to retire, and so am I."

"You're going to leave the office?"

"That's right. Why should I go on working at a job I hate now that I'm going to have a steady income?"

Waterman considered. "All right," he said. "Probably it's just as well. The less I see of you in the future the safer it will be for both of us. Now listen to this. I saw Miss Colby this morning. She swallowed your story last night, but today she's not so sure about it. She wants the thing investigated."

"And who's going to do it?"

"I am."

Nina laughed. "Gee," she said, "you're a wiz."

"All the same," said Waterman, "the sooner you change your address the better."

"Right," agreed Nina. "I'm tired of the Bronx anyhow. I'll hunt up an apartment tomorrow. And now we've got to come down to vulgar mercenary details."

"Shoot. How much?"

"Not anything to write with."

He detached a silver pencil from his watch-chain and tossed it across the table. Nina wrote a few lines on the back of the menu card, and slipped it over to him.

"Him," said her victim as he gazed upon the statement. "You're doing yourself rather well, aren't you?"

"Aren't you?" said she.

Stanley left the Grand Central station the following Wednesday afternoon, bound for Tibet. He said from San Francisco at ten o'clock the following Monday morning.

He did not see Doris Colby again. He called at her house on the Tuesday before he left New York, at an hour when he knew she was almost always in. He was a little surprised when the butler told him that she was not at home.

"I'm sorry not to see her," Barker. He said. "Be sure to tell her that. I shall not have another chance, as I leave New York tomorrow afternoon for a long journey."

Stanley was, on the whole, relieved. He had no wish to see Doris again. For him the final interview was bound to be a painful thing. He could have no notion that it would also have been painful to her. He was glad that he was able to avoid it. From San Francisco he sent her a farewell telegram:

"Good-by," it read, "and all the good luck in the world to both my girls."

That was on a Monday morning. On the following Tuesday morning Wilson, running hastily over the pages of his morning paper, came upon the following paragraph:

"Mr. Alexander Colby of 1086 Fifth avenue, announces the engagement of his daughter, Miss Doris Colby, to Mr. Rollin Waterman, of 557 Park avenue."



"All the Same," said Waterman, "the sooner you change your address the better."

## CHAPTER VIII

It should have become fairly obvious by now that Jim Stanley's conception of Rollin Waterman as simple, direct, ingenuous sportsman, had many points not consonant with the truth. Waterman's life, in fact, had for so long been filled with twistings and turnings of various sorts that for him the shortest distance between two points had become the devious route of a corkscrew. The impulsiveness for which Stanley admired him and on account of which he made so many excuses for him was wholly on the surface.

No sooner had Jim Stanley sailed from San Francisco than Waterman informed Doris that Nina Morgan had left the office, removed from her former address, and that the private detectives whom he called in had been unable to trace her.

The Waterman-Colby wedding was what is called a Society event. That is to say, it took place in St. Bartholomew's church under the auspices of the bishop of the diocese and the rector of the parish, harmonized by the boy choir, beautified by the ritual of the church, and witnessed by an assembly of persons whose names were prominent in the social and business life of the city.

It was witnessed also by Nina Morgan. She insisted on having a card

of admittance, and though her presence was not noted by any other of the hundreds who were in the church, she was to the bridegroom the most conspicuous person there. Despite all his poise, as he stood at the altar with Doris at his side, he felt like a man who rather expects to be shot in the back at any moment. But though Nina's presence was noted by no one inside the church, with the distinguished exception of the bridegroom, it was distinctly observed by one of the numerous individuals who crowded the sidewalk outside the door to watch the wedding party as it came from the church.

Frank Wilson was not invited to the wedding, but he went, none the less, as far as he could go without a card of admittance, and he was, to say the least, interested when he saw Nina come out. He had noted with surprise the withdrawal of that young woman from the office, but its exact significance he could not fathom. This event had occurred before the publication of the Waterman Colby engagement. That announcement had interested Wilson even more keenly in view of the continued absence of Miss Morgan, so that he made bold one day, shortly after, to speak to Waterman about it.

"Oh, yes," said Waterman, "she's gone for good."

"May I ask if you dismissed her?" inquired Wilson.

"Oh, no," responded Waterman, "got another job somewhere, I believe. Glad she's gone. Been getting a little careless lately."

Now Wilson reflected to himself, as he stood on the edge of the crowd that gathered about the striped awning that led from the portals of St.

## Taking the Blue Out of Monday

By RING LARDNER

To the Editor:

I don't know how it is around different parts of the country but out our way the boys is all worried about Blue Monday and what they going to do with themselves when the Lords day alliance gets to work on the sleeping beauty down in Washington and slips another dose of bug poison to the boys that still staggers to their feet when the band plays the land of the free.

A few of the boys takes the proposition like a joke and say they won't mind it, but the Master Minds that makes our laws will knock them down for a row over rubarb. Well they said the same thing in regard to prohibition but you can drive your flivver up and down Main St all day long how days without getting sidwiped by no beer truck.

The boys might as well get it in their bean that the new law will go through like it was playing Yale and in a few more wks. old Mr. Monday, that everybody use to crab at because it meant to go to work, will be a 24 Xmas with people wakening up full of zip and slapping 1 another on the back and hollering merry Monday and many of them.

Person: I haven't saw no draft of the statute but they tell me it provides for everybody to go to church and as far as that is concerned why they might just as well because it also provides that they won't be no movies or no ball game or no Sunday paper and you can't dance or go riding or swimming or picnicking or shoot craps or play cards and etc. with penalties all the way from 30 days to a couple of minutes in the electric chair.

Well friends when this comes they's just 3 ways to take it. You can pack your tooth brush and night gown and move to Paris or you can stay here and obey the law or break it. Now while many books and songs has been wrote about the glories of gay Paris I seen enough of it so as I would advise my readers to stay here even after the Master Minds passes the next amendment witch is coming after this one and witch will provide that you can't eat meat or have corns.

As for obeying the law they's no use obeying the letter unless you also obey the spirit and the spirit of the law is to see that everybody has a rotten time Sunday, yourself inclusive. This ain't as easy as it sounds and they become sort of paralyzed and loggy. When your kidneys get sluggish and clog you must relieve them, like you relieve your bowels, removing all the body's urinous waste, else you have backache, sick headache, dizzy spells; your stomach sour, tongue is coated and when the weather is bad you have rheumatic twinges. The urine is cloudy, full of sediment, channels often get sore, water scalds and you are obliged to seek relief two or three times during the night.


Either consult a good, reliable physician at once or get from your pharmacist about four ounces of Jaid Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys may then act fine. This famous salts is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for years to help clean and stimulate sluggish kidneys, also to neutralize acids in the system, so they no longer irritate, thus often relieving bladder weakness.

Jaid Salts is inexpensive, cannot injure and makes a delightful, effervescent lithia-water drink. Drink lots of good water.

A man may not be a political leader, but if he doesn't vote he isn't even a good follower.

## Los Angeles Boy Needed Help

By RING LARDNER



Leroy Young, 1116 Georgia St., Los Angeles, is a "regular fellow," active in sports, and at the top in his classes at school. To look at him now, you'd think he never had a day's sickness but his mother says: "When Leroy was just a little fellow, we found his stomach and bowels were weak. He kept suffering from constipation. Nothing he ate agreed with him. He was fretful, feverish and puny."

"When we started giving him California Fig Syrup his condition improved quickly. His constipation and biliousness stopped and he has had no more trouble of that kind. I have since used California Fig Syrup with him for colds and upset spells. He likes it because it tastes so good and I like it because it helps him so wonderfully!"

California Fig Syrup has been the trusted standby of mothers for over 50 years. Leading physicians recommend it. It is purely vegetable and works with Nature to regulate, tone and strengthen the stomach and bowels of children so they get full nourishment from their food and waste is eliminated in a normal way.

Four million bottles used a year shows how mothers depend on it. Always look for the word "California" on the carton to be sure of getting the genuine.

Um

"What did she sue her husband for?"

"Nonsupport."

"I thought she was getting plenty of that."

## If Kidneys Act Bad Take Salts

Says Backache Often Means You Have Not Been Drinking Enough Water

When you wake up with backache and dull misery in the kidney region it may mean you have been eating foods which create acids, says a well-known authority. An excess of such acids overworks the kidneys in their effort to filter from the blood like, so for the benefit of my readers I have figured out an ideal program for a blue sabbath as follows:

6 A. M. Get up and take a cold bath. Shave with ice water and find your own clothes.

7 A. M. Breakfast. Burnt toast with any good coffee substitute.

7:30 to 9 A. M. Don't smoke.

9 A. M. to 1 P. M. Sabbath school and church.

2 P. M. Have duck for dinner to witch is invited a man that was in the war and his wife and 4 kiddies. Ask the man about the war.

3 to 5 P. M. Keep asking the man about the war. No smoking.

5 P. M. Vespers.

6 to 7:30 P. M. Try and call up somebody that has got a new number. 7:30 to 9 P. M. Church.

9 P. M. to bedtime. Talk nice about everybody.

As for the boys that wants to evade the law, the 1st place they can't be too careful as the penalties is going to be mighty stiff like for inst. 8 yrs. if you are caught laughing unless it is 1 of the ministers gags or some funny crack in the colic for the day.

But for the boys who is willing to take a chance I have got up a serious substitute for the different "wimes like motoring etc., that can be pulled off without no fear of detection unless the people you play with and invite into your home is a wolf in cheap clothing.

Motoring—Every time you get home from church run out to the garage and change tires.

Cards, craps and etc.—Set in church with a pal and bet on any of the following propositions. 1. The next gal that comes in will be a blonde. The odds against this is about 2 to 1 unless it's a skt jumper's church. 2. Will the text be from the odd or even number chapter. 3. Who will cough next a man or a woman.

Surf Bathing—Fill the bath tub with water and pour 1/2 bbl. of salt in it. Then you and the wife and kiddies put on a bathing suit and get in. You duck them and they squeal.

Picnic—Put your dinner in a basket along with some bugs and dirt. Sprinkle the dining rm. floor with leaves and sand burrs and set down and eat.

Movies—Put out the lights and shut the window curtains. Hang a sheet at one end of the rm. and set and chew gum.

Baseball—Set on the ironing board and keep hollering. "That a boy."

Funny Papers—Your wife gets in bed and you pretend like its 2 A. M. and you are just getting home. She says where have you been. You say you been to a lodge meeting. She breaks off a bed post and hits you over the head with it. You say "Ram."

Golf—Hide a couple of balls 1 Sunday and look for them the next.

(© by the Ball Synthesis, Inc.)

## Active Cigar Butt

When a lighted cigar butt was tossed out of an eight story window in a Pittsburgh building it first struck an awning over a sixth floor window. From there it bounced to a fifth floor awning, thence to a second floor awning and to the ground, leaving enough ash to set fire to each one of the three drapings.

## Cold Need Cause No Inconvenience

Singers can always keep from catching cold, but they can get the best of any cold in a few hours—and so can you. Get Pape's Cold Compound that comes in pleasant-tasting tablets, one of which will break up a cold so quickly you'll be astonished—Adv.

Latest

"John, don't you know you ought not to snooze on the beach with your mouth open?"

"All wrong again. Sun bath for the tonsils."

## 10 minutes ago

Remember all the things people used to do for headaches? Today, the accepted treatment is Bayer Aspirin. It gets action! Quick, complete relief—and no harm done. No after effects; no effect on the heart; nothing in a Bayer tablet could hurt anyone. (Your doctor will verify this.) For any sort of headache, neuralgia, pains, rheumatism just try Bayer Aspirin. Taken soon enough, it can head-off the pain altogether; even those pains many women have thought must be endured. At all druggists.

Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacturer of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid



# ASPIRIN

## Lonely Man

Not Visible to All

The north or pole star is visible from the earth only in the Northern hemisphere. To people living north of the equator the pole star never sets. Persons anywhere considerable distance south of the equator cannot see the north star

Named for Discoverer

The Cape May peninsula in New Jersey was named for a Dutch sailor, Cornelius Mey who explored the lower reaches of the Delaware in 1614



## SAME PRESCRIPTION HE WROTE IN 1892

When Dr. Caldwell started to practice medicine, back in 1875, the needs for a laxative were not as great as today. People lived normal lives, ate plain, wholesome food, and got plenty of fresh air. But even that early there were drastic physics and purges for the relief of constipation which Dr. Caldwell did not believe were good for human beings. This prescription for constipation that he used early in his practice, and which he put in drug stores in 1892 under the name of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, is a liquid vegetable remedy, intended for women, children and elderly people, and they need just such a mild, safe bowel stimulant.

This prescription has proven its worth and is now the largest selling liquid laxative. It has won the confidence of people who needed it to get relief from headaches, biliousness, flatulence, indigestion, loss of appetite and sleep, bad breath, dyspepsia, colds, fevers. Get your druggist, or write "Syrup Pepsin," Dept. B.B. Monticello, Illinois, for free trial bottle.

## McMILLAN

WANTS YOUR FURS

Liberal Grading. Big profits for you! Paying top-notch prices for 50 years. Your market booming. Send today for price list. Trappers' Guide. McMILLAN Fur & Wool Co. FREE to shippers. WE PAY YOU SPOT CASH.

CALIFORNIA For 5c

SCHOOL FOR MEN

OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Y. M. C. A. Bldg. Portland, Oregon

### PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

Restores Color and Beauty to Gray and Balding Hair. No. 4214 at Druggists.

FLORESTON SHAMPOO—Ideal for use in connection with Parker's Hair Balsam. Makes the hair soft and fluffy. 40 cents by mail or at drug stores. Hancock Chemical Works, Pathephone, N. Y.

W. N. U., PORTLAND, NO. 44-1928.



## Cuticura

Distinguished for Excellence for fifty years

The Soap to cleanse, purify and beautify. The Ointment to soften, soothe and heal

A world famous and dependable treatment for the skin and hair

Sold everywhere. Soap 25c, Ointment 25c, and 50c. Talcum 25c. Sample each free. Address "Cuticura," Dept. B.5, Malden, Mass.  Cuticura Shaving Stick 25c.

### When Books Mildeo

The Library of Congress says that if the mildew on books is still damp, sponge it off with vinegar or with water containing some vinegar. If the mildew is dry, it can be wiped off with a dry cloth. If stains are left, alcohol will probably remove them. The books should then be placed in a strong sunlight, in a current of dry air.

### What's a Ha-Ha?

Webster's definition of a ha-ha is a sunk fence, wall or ditch not visible from the house, being built on a terrace. They inclosed the held where the cattle grazed.

### Solomon's Grand Song

The Song of Solomon was incorporated in the earliest Jewish scriptures. Selections were sung at certain festivals in the temple at Jerusalem prior to its destruction by Titus. It was first declared canonical by the Synod of Jamnia 90 A. D.

### Typical American Girl

The "Gibson girl" stood for a type of healthy, vigorous, beautiful and content young womanhood. In fact, Charles Dana Gibson made a place for himself as the delineator of the American girl, at various occupations, particularly out of doors.

### Nautical Measurements

A knot is a measure of speed the equivalent of one nautical mile an hour. The nautical mile is 6,080.7 feet. It is about 15 per cent longer than a land mile. This makes ten knots an hour the equivalent of 11 1/2 miles an hour.

### English Court Officer

In England a barrister is a member of the legal profession qualified to plead at the bar. He undertakes the public trial of causes in the superior courts of the law as distinguished from an attorney or solicitor.

### Various Alphabets

The world's longest alphabet, the Chinese, has over 20,000 characters, each representing not a sound but a syllable. The Sanskrit alphabet has 49 characters, the Persian 45, the French 25 and the Spanish 27.

### Combating Avoirdupois

"To bant," the humorous name for dieting with the purpose of losing weight, originated in the making of a verb from the name "banting." Banting was the advocate of such a system, which bears his name.

### Old and New Combined

Inside the pedestal on which Cleopatra's sardic stands are several jars containing British coins, a railway guide, a number of children's toys, copies of newspapers and a map of London.

### Up the Sleeve

The expression, "laughing up one's sleeve," harks back to the time when sleeves were cut very full and heavy laughs were deemed bad manners. So people literally laughed up their sleeves.

### Many Trials to Keep Step

What's the use? When you're young they change geography as fast as you learn it. When you get older, they change the dance as fast as you learn it.—Birmingham News.

### Self Assertion

Most of the books designed to develop "personality" are probably sold to men who think you can correct a traffic jam by footing your horn.—Newcastle Courier.

### Foolish Charity

To treat a poor wretch with a bottle of Burgundy, and fill his snuff box, is like giving a pair of laced ruffles to a man that has never a shirt on his back.—Brown.

### Fishes' Eyes a Tit-Bit

Fish eyes are considered a table delicacy in the West Indies and boiled salmon eyes, which resemble large blueberries, are a favorite dish in eastern Asia.

### Balm for Housewives

Many of the minor tragedies of the housewife are like a child's pranks, really comical, and can be seen so later.—American Magazine.

### America's Distinction

America, taken as one continent, is the only one the shores of which are washed by the Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic and Antarctic oceans.

### Cosmopolitan Journals

At Cairo, Egypt, newspapers are published in many languages, including Arabic, French, English, Italian, Greek, and Armenian.

### This Life the Test

The man who in this world can keep the whiteness of his soul is no likely to lose it in any other.—Alexander Smith.



### SUFFERING ELIMINATED

15 years success in treating Rectal and Colon troubles by the Dr. C. J. Dean

NON-SURGICAL method enables you to give WRITTEN AS SURVIVANCE OF FILES. ELIMINATED OF FEE REFUNDED. Send today for FREE 100-page book describing causes and proper treatment of such ailments.



### DEAN'S RECTAL & COLON CLINIC

PHOENIX, ARIZONA  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
DENVER, COLORADO  
PORTLAND, OREGON  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA