

# "MASTER of MONEY"

BY ROY VICKERS



"How much are you in for altogether?"

CHAPTER VII

"There will be no action for libel. It isn't a libel. God help me. It's true—thanks to my father." Alan had risen from his chair. He was staring down at Kelton. Kelton was sitting now with his face buried in his hands. It was a theatrical pose it was unbecomingly so; but Alan found time to wish Kelton's unconsciousness did not express itself with quite so much alacrity.

"You're raving, Kelton. If you have—I hate to use the word—if you have been guilty of embezzlement what can your father have to do with it?"

"I haven't embezzled a penny," Kelton's voice was thick. "Believe that or not as you like, Bronnaway—you will soon know. There is no question of a criminal charge being laid against me, personally. All the same, the firm is now about to go bankrupt."

"I don't follow," said Alan impatiently.

Kelton removed his hands and stared at the floor.

"I didn't know for certain until about a week ago, but I began to suspect about three months af-

ter my father's death. As it is—I shall leave the bankruptcy court without a stain on my character—except the stain that will result from being the bankrupt son of a crook."

"Do you mean to tell me—"

"It's asking you a lot to believe it, isn't it? It took me a long time to swallow it—nearly a year, but—the securities have gone." Such reserve as was left was slipping away now. "Even now when I think of him I find myself thinking of his kindness. God, how he deceived me!"

"The figures show that for 20 years he had been swindling our clients. I've been educated on stolen money. The clothes I'm wearing are stolen—the very food I've been eating."

For several seconds Alan could say nothing. The postcard had not prepared him for this. He had thought of it as an act of malice on the part of a mentally feeble man with a grievance. The conception of Kelton and Reed fraudulently bankrupt still seemed ridiculous. And what could he say to young Kelton?

"It's no good dwelling on the

body else believed it to be. I had contemplated marriage."

"Do you mean you're engaged?" asked Alan. "That's tragic."

"Well... My father died suddenly, you know. I had asked her the day before. We would hardly announce it then. We agreed to wait for a bit—not necessarily the usual year. And now she—well, of course, she's waiting for me to ask her for a formal announcement—she's really in a false position."

"She'll stick to you if she's worth anything, Kelton."

"It isn't only a question of sticking to me. She would do that if I would allow her."

"I quite see that you will feel bound to release her."

"Of course. But that's not my chief worry about her—I tell you. I have not even thought much about losing her."

"What then?"

Kelton's gesture implied that it would be futile to explain. The next moment, however, he explained.

"She's an orphan. She's the chief creditor of the firm—the one we've robbed most. Now, perhaps, you are beginning to realize what that place was what every-

Alan paced the room.

"Can't anything be done?" Kelton shook his head.

"I had a sort of idea that with a little time we might be able to adjust things a bit—clutching at straws, you know. But Bronnaway has made that impossible and I am almost grateful to him. My father had thirty thousand of his. Also, it's doubtful whether any adjustment would be possible."

"My father would have settled Bronnaway by giving him the cash value of his securities before he left the office—but I could only do that by doing just what my father would have done—namely, realizing someone's else securities to pay for it. And that I'm damned if I'll do."

Alan grunted. Kelton got up. He was obviously scrambling back to his first manner—the manner that Alan could not quite like.

"Somehow you have made me talk when I ought to have shut up. It's an impertinence on my part—I apologize. Thanks for listening, Bronnaway, but you had better leave me. I shall file my petition in bankruptcy at once."

Alan stared out of the window.

"How much are you in for altogether?"

## Fall and Rise of All-Over Carpeting in the Home

A FEW years ago the all-over carpeting was to be seen only in a few places. Shops, hotel rooms and what mid-Victorian homes were still left in their ancient glory. There were all sorts of reasons why carpeting lost favor during the years when the rage for greater sanitation in the home was popular. Prokaryotic and every household looked suspiciously on dust-catching objects. Corners were the most dangerous enemies from a house-cleaning standpoint, and carpets presented corners of special difficulty.

However, the chief objection against the all-over carpet disappeared with the advent of the vacuum cleaner. To the modern power-driven sweeper there's no such thing as an inaccessible spot, and every kind of dirt can be dustlessly absorbed. That being the case, there's a great deal to be said in favor of all-over carpets, and apparently it is being said, because one sees them more and more frequently.

Partly the growing popularity of the all-over carpets may be attributed to the demands of modernistic furniture. Gradually it has become apparent that modernistic pieces with their sharp, severe lines need to be tempered by soft environment. An angular modern chair on a hardwood floor, partly covered with rugs, spreads a kind of chill. On the other hand, even an extremely severe piece not only loses its harshness, but provides a pleasant contrast when it is set on an all-over carpet, and none of the wood flooring is exposed. As a matter of fact, this modernistic furniture if carried to extremes not only needs a soft floor covering, but also walls that are covered with a fabric rather than plaster or any other hard-looking surface. And the most handsome modernistic room within memory is a prize display of most extreme pieces which, nevertheless, looked more cozy and attractive than would seem possible if the furniture had been exhibited by itself. But it was placed in a finished room. And not only were the floors covered with all-over carpet, but the walls were silk hung, and instead of a plaster ceiling there was a soft silk fabric, the illumination being by means of concealed tubes in a tiny channel along the upper moulding.

All-over carpeting is desirable in two other types of rooms besides that modernistic furnished. One is the small room which, of necessity, has too much furniture. (The furniture all being essential to comfort despite the fact that space is not quite adequate.) This is a problem which confronts many families who must live in smaller apartments than their needs demand. A rug of any size will cut down the apparent size of the room. A number of small rugs in a little room make for a cluttered appearance, in addition to reducing its apparent size. The all-over carpet, on the other hand, especially if it is the solid color, will make the floor space seem larger.

Patterned carpets may be very lovely, but they require very careful selection. Only a very large room can stand a large pattern, and geometrical designs of small size, or very small of-repeated patterns can be used only in a small room containing very little furniture.

The other objection when the all-over carpet is highly useful is the room with an unsightly floor. If it's impossible to repair flooring, or to restore it to natural beauty, there's only one alternative—the all-over carpet which covers a multitude of defects.

## Home-Making Helps

By ELEANOR ROSS

"Now that you ask me—I really don't know. I stopped counting at about \$250,000—the thing had become fantastic. Here's the list, if you care to add it up." (To be Continued Tuesday)

## "TELLING TOMMY"

TELL ME ABOUT THE FLAG OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, DADDY.

THEIR NATIONAL BANNER WAS DEVISED IN 1812, TOMMY.

GENERAL BELGRANO

GENERAL SAN MARTIN

THE FLAG OF ARGENTINA IS SOMETHING MORE THAN MERELY THE NATIONAL FLAG OF THE REPUBLIC UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GENERAL DE SAN MARTIN AND

GENERAL BELGRANO, IT HELPED TO FREE ECUADOR, CHILE, BOLIVIA AND PERU. THE FLAG HAS THREE STRIPES, SKY-BLUE AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM AND WHITE IN THE CENTER. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD IS A GOLDEN REPRESENTATION OF THE SUN.

FLAG OF ARGENTINA

IN 1812, THE CONGRESS OF TUCUMAN FORMALLY RECOGNIZED IT AS THE STANDARD OF THE NEW ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, THEN CALLED "THE UNITED PROVINCES OF THE RIO DE LA PLATA."

Daddy told me all about the flag of Argentina, Betty.

Huh! You an daddy had better quit chewing the rag so much an get your Christmas shopping done!

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## POLLY AND HER PALS

WILL I DO, SANNY? I WANT LIL GERTRUDE TO SEE YOU, BUT HOW?

THAT'S VERY SIMPLE, SAMBO. EVERYONE CAN SEE ME, IF THEY TRY HARD ENOUGH!

TAKE LITTLE NEEWAH, FOR INSTANCE. HE DONT HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY IM SURE!

AND THAT GOES FOR LITTLE COCOA, AS WELL!

GREAT GUNS, KITTY! YOU, TOO?

"Little Blind Lass"

By CLIFF STERRETT

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## TILLIE, THE TOILER

I WOULDN'T HAVE YOU MISS THIS MORNINGS PAPER FOR ANYTHING MR WHIPPLE

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING CHOICE IN THERE THAT YOU WANT ME TO READ MISS KLINKER

OH, BOY! HERE IT IS - AN ARTICLE ADVOCATING THE WEARING OF SHORT DRESSES IN BUSINESS - AND TILLIE IS STILL WEARING 'EM LONG

WHAT'S ALL THE EXCITEMENT, MISTER WHIPPLE?

GET A LOAD OF THIS, TILLIE - THE LONG DRESS PUTS A GIRL AT A DIS ADVANTAGE IN HIGH-SPEED BUSINESS TODAY AS IT IMPEDES HER ACTIVITY

IS THAT SO?

"Proof With a Kick"

By RUSS WESTOVER

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## LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY

WELL, THOSE BIRDS SURE STOPPED US THAT TIME!

YEAH, BUT I HAVE A SPARE TIRE ON THE BACK AN' WE'LL SOON BE ON THEIR TRAIL AGAIN!

YES, BUT EVEN IF WE DID MANAGE TO CATCH UP TO THEM AGAIN THEY'D SIMPLY SHOOT UP ONCE MORE - AND THEY KNOW I CAN'T RETURN THE FIRE FOR FEAR OF HITTING THE LITTLE GIRL THEY'RE ABDUCTING!

NO! - WE WOULDN'T ATTEMPT TO OVERTAKE THEM AGAIN - I HAVE THEIR NUMBER AND, WHILE YOU CHANGE THE TIRE I'LL GO BACK TO THE STORE WE JUST PASSED AND PHONE THE POLICE OF THE NEXT TOWN TO STOP THEM - THEN I'LL REPORT TO HEADQUARTERS AND HAVE A GENERAL ALARM SENT OUT -

THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! - THEN WE'LL GO ON TO THE NEXT TOWN AFTER I CHANGE THIS TIRE -

-BUT-

PADDY O'FLINN HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT THE ABDUCTORS OF OUR LITTLE HEROINE HAD TURNED OFF THE MAIN HIGHWAY A MILE FURTHER ON, AND, AFTER LEAVING ANNIE WITH AN UNTEMPRESS CALLED 'MAMIE' THEY CHANGED THEIR NUMBER PLATES BEFORE RETURNING.

"Officer O'Flinn's No Flat Tire"

By BEN BATSFORD

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## TOOTS AND CASPER

GOOD GRACIOUS, CASPER! DON'T TELL ME THAT COLONEL HOOVER IS COMING TO LIVE WITH US FOR ANOTHER WEEK!

WHAT COULD I SAY, TOOTS? HE ASKED TO STAY WITH US! HIS WIFE'S GOING TO VISIT HER FOLKS AGAIN, AND THEIR HOUSE IS TO BE REDEDICATED WHILE SHE IS AWAY!

WHY DOESN'T HE COME? I'M NOT GOING TO COOK DINNER! WELL, DINE OUT BUT I WON'T WAIT ALL NIGHT FOR HIM!

HE SAID HE'D COME HERE AS SOON AS HE PUT HIS WIFE ON THE TRAIN! THE PHONE IS RINGING MAYBE HE'S HERE!

THAT WAS COLONEL HOOVER! HE'S IN JAIL AND HE BELIEGED ME TO BRING DOWN \$500.00 TO BAIL HIM OUT! HE SAID HE WAS PICKED UP FOR SPEEDING ON HIS WAY HERE, AND HE WAS ARRESTED FOR GIVING THE COP A LOT OF LIP!

YOU'LL HAVE TO BAIL HIM OUT, CASPER! YOU CAN'T LET THE DOOR FELLOW STAY IN A CELL!

EVERY TIME I GET A FEW DOLLARS AHEAD SOMETHING TURNS UP TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME! I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD THE COLONEL I WON \$475.00 ON A HOSS RACE! THAT'S WHY HE CALLED ON ME FOR BAIL MONEY! HERE AFTER, I'M GOING TO KEEP MY EARS OPEN AND MY MOUTH SHUT!

"Belated Wisdom"

By JIMMY MURPHY

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## Today's Cross-Word Puzzle

By EUGENE SHEPPER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10			11	12			
13	14	15	16	17			18	
19	20	21	22	23				
24	25	26		27				
28	29		30					
31	32		33	34				
35		36		37				
38	39	40		41			42	
43		44		45	46			
47		48		49	50	51		
52			53	54	55			
56				57				

- HORIZONTAL.**
- 1—What motion picture star played in "The Gold Rush," "The Circus" and "Shoulder Arms"?
  - 2—Who was Vice-President during the administration of Calvin Coolidge?
  - 3—Also.
  - 4—What is the given name of the popular actress, Miss Bordent?
  - 5—Part of "to be."
  - 6—Indefinite period of time.
  - 7—Possessive.
  - 8—French definite article.
  - 9—Undermine.
  - 10—Sea nymph who lured mariners by singing.
  - 11—Nothing.
  - 12—What canal extends from Buffalo to the Hudson River at Albany?
  - 13—Beverage.
  - 14—Part of the foot.
  - 15—Innate.
  - 16—Permit.
  - 17—Promontory.
  - 18—Organ of hearing.
  - 19—Inland body of water.
  - 20—Forever.
  - 21—Skill in performance.
  - 22—Deposited for preservation.
  - 23—Lease.
  - 24—What American statesman was first Chief Justice from 1789 to 1795?
  - 25—Snare.
  - 26—Small point.
  - 27—Who wrote "Tono-Bungay" and "An Outline of History"?
  - 28—Printer's measure.
  - 29—Exists.
  - 30—Aeriform fluid.
  - 31—Consume.
  - 32—Therefore.
  - 33—What Italian poet wrote "The Divine Comedy"?
  - 34—What Confederate general became president of Washington College?
  - 35—Feel one's way.
  - 36—Tells again.
- VERTICAL.**
- 1—What Chief Justice administered the oath of office to Andrew Johnson?
  - 2—By.
  - 3—From what American poet is the line "Quest, the raven, 'Nevermore' taken?"
  - 4—Who wrote "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"?
  - 5—Chemical symbol for nickel.
- Here is the solution to Saturday's puzzle.
- SAPID CHARS  
VACATE RELATE  
EVIL FEE LIRA  
RID BLAST DIG  
SO ELASTIC DE  
EREMITE MISER  
ELENE SITE  
LIED GADENCE  
EM RECALLS ON  
ART RECALLS ON  
PAIN DEN SAVE  
SCRAPE CAUSED  
LEED ENDTY
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