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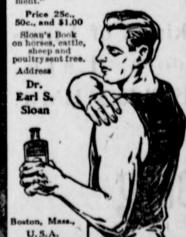
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STORY

Gie Chronicles Addington Peace

By B. Fletcher Robinson

Co-Author with A. Conan Doyle of "The Hound of the Baskervilles," etc.

years in Portland. THE STORY OF AMAROFF THE POLE

(Continued.)

The serjeant stepped forward and whispered. The man was sufficiently When the leaves turn yellow and satisfied, for he dropped the slide at once, and the door swung back to adtablespoonful of olive oil every two mit us; the hairy-faced porter bowing weeks. Also wash the plant once a welcome in polite submission. The week with warm soapsuds letting the inspector led the way up the stairs, and I followed at his heels. The serjeant had disappeared.

It was a broad, low room in which we found ourselves, the rafters of the roof unhidden by the plaster of a celling. Round the walls on benches ranged behind tables a dozen men sat smoking and drinking. The chatter of talk faded away as we entered. In silence they stared at us, calmly, judiclously, without fear or curiosity, I could not have imagined a more composed and resolute company. I felt that I carried myself awkwardly, as an impertinent intruder should; but the inspector sauntered across the room to a bar on the further side as calmly as if he were the oldest and most valued member in the club.

A pale-faced man with a stained and yellow beard rose from his seat behind the glasses. His eyes were fixed on Peace with a weak, pathetic ex pression like a dog in pain.

"Good evening, Mr. Greatman," said the inspector. "Can I have a word with you?"

"Yes, sir, if you will kindly step into my private room," he answered in excellent English, opening a hatch in the bar. "This is the way, sir, if you will follow me.

We walked after him down a short passage and stopped before the darkness of an open door. A spurt of a match and the gas jet flared upon a bare chamber, hung with a gaudy paper and furnished with half a dozen wooden chairs set round a deal table in the center. In place of a carpet, our feet grated upon a smooth sprin-"Dear Sir," wrote a Cardiff father kling of that grey sand which may to a school teacher, "Please do not still be found in old-fashioned inns. let my son John learn Welsh today; It was here then, if the detectives his throat is so bad he can hardly were not mistaken, that this crime had found a climax, this sordid murder not thirty hours old.

> "If you would like a fire, gentlemen," suggested Greatman, "I can easily fetch some coals."

> "Pray do not trouble yourself," said the inspector, politely. "My name is Peace, of the Criminal Investigation Department, and I called to inquire if you can tell me anything concerning the murder of the sculptor, Amaroff."

"I know nothing." "That is strange, seeing that he was

strangled in this very room. "Here?" cried the Pole, with a stare of unbelief changing into sudden ter-

ror. "Here—in my room."
"So I believe," said Peace.

The man swaved for an instant. grasping at the back of a chair, and then dropped to the ground, moaning. his face covered with his hands. In that crouching figure before us was written the extremity of despair.

"Come, come, Greatman, pull your self together," said the inspector, tapping him kindly on the shoulder. "If you are innocent, there is no need to make all this fuss."

"It was Nicolin who lied to me," he cried, looking up with bewildered eyes. "Very probably," said Peace, "it is

a habit with him." "Yet it was I, miserable that I am. who made the meeting between them. Before Heaven, it was with the innocence of a child. If those my comrades of the club but knew-

He hesitated, his eyes searching the room in sudden terror. "Oblige me by seeing that we have

no comrades already at the keyhole. Mr. Phillips," said Peace. There was no one at the door; no

one in the dark passage; and when I in a crumpled beap. returned I found that Peace had lifted the caretaker to a chair, where he sat

"You can trust us," the detective was saying. "Believe me, Greatman, it will be best for yourself that you hide nothing."

And so with many fierce cries and protestations, this poor creature began his story.

It was Nicolin, it seemed, who had discovered that Greatman, the caretaker of the Brutus Club, was one and the same with the forger, Ivan Kroll, of Odessa, who had been wanted by the Russian police for close upon twelve years. But having a shrewd head on his shoulders, Nicolin made no immediate use of his knowledge. For forgery a man might be extradited from England. Once in Russia American women for being much too originated in the Garden of Eden."

the charge would be altered to nihilism, and then-Siberia. It was not pleasant for the caretaker of a nibilist club to be at the mercy of a blackbearded apy lounging on the step out side. "It was that which drove me to the brandy," said poor Greatman, altas Kroll.

About the end of August there began, he continued, a duel of wits between the two men, Amaroff and Nicolin, the reasons and causes of down the back stairs and out into a which did not, if he might be permitted to say, concern us Nicolin's under the walls I made out a double career was dependent on his success. row of big barrows, from which there For him, failure spelt permanent disgrace. Yet it was Amaroff who was fish predominated. From amongst playing with his opponent as a cat them a tall shadow arose and came with a mouse, confusing and surprising him at every turn, driving him, indeed, when time grew pressing, into desperate measures. At the last he his fist and talking to himself like a formed a plan, did Nicolin, a scheme worthy of his most cunning brain.

"This, then, he did," ended the poor caretaker. "He came to me-I who had so great love and honor for Amaroff, my friend, I whom he had turned from crime and aided to earn a wage in honesty-he came to me and he says: 'Kroll, in my pocket is a warrant that will send you back to the snow places in the East; do you fear me, my good Kroll?' And I feared him. 'See, now,' he said, 'we desire to see your friend Amaroff for a little talk. We cannot harm him here in this mad country. Contrive a trick, bring him into your private room behind the bar. Give us the key of the yard door that we may come secretly to himand afterwards you will hear no more of Siberia from me. Do you consent?

"Gentlemen, I believed him, also having fear of the snow places; and I consented.

"So Amaroff answered my call, and with some excuse I left him in this room. It was at a time when few members were in the club-about seven of the clock. And that, as I live, is all I have to tell. I waited at my seat behind the bar. I saw nothing, heard nothing-and at last when I went to my room, behold it was empty! I tried to suspect no wrongbut I did not sleep that night. In the morning I saw in the papers that Amaroff, my friend, was dead, and how he died I could not tell."

"So Nicolin won the game," suggested Peace, softly. "And there will be no regrettable incident when the Czar enters Paris the day after to-

"Of that I have no knowledge," said Greatman; but I saw a sudden resolution shine in his face that seemed to put new heart into the man.

"Well, Mr. Phillips," said the inspector, turning upon me with a warning quiver of the left eyelid, "it is to meet Nicolin at the studio by seven tomorrow morning. We must get to inspector. "Anything to report?" bed early.

"Certainly," I said. I was rather out of my depth, but I take myself this credit that I did not show it. "Then do you search the studio to-

morrow?" asked Greatman. "Yes-it has been arranged."

"But will you not first arrest this Nicolin, this murderer?" "My dear Mr. Greatman," said the of the studio-it can be done. There inspector, "you have told us your is a man who I fancy will have a key fidence. But I advise you now to leave minutes. If I have not whistled bethings alone. I will see justice done—fore he arrives, let him through. You don't be afraid about that. For the understand?" rest, please to keep a sflent tongue in your head-it will be safer. There is there may be dangers from your turned to me. friends in the club yonder for Julius Greatman, who arranged so indiscreet Phillips, and no slight danger. 1 a meeting in his private room. Good must ask you to go home.

night to you." The caretaker did not reply, but opening the door, bowed us into the that he was smiling. "You are rather passage that led to the big room. We had not taken half a dozen steps when you know. There is more of a fight-I looked back over my shoulder, expecting to see him behind us. But Come, then, over you go." he had vanished.

> thin. "American women of good breeding are slender to the point of emaciation," says the princess. "They hurry too much, that is the reason.

LIBEL ON ARIZONA WEATHER Tale Impressed Englishman,

Probably Went Home and Wrote a Book About It.

"Hot weather reminds me," said the story when he gets an opening. "I never know what hot weather is until lovely. you ride through some of those southwestern states in the summer. The heat rolls up in waves and smites you. Everything except the rattlesnakes and the Indians stay out of the sun's rays as much as possible.

"On a station platform stood a dilapidated sprinkling can, It was full of dents and the spout was lying near the can, both evidently not having been used for months.

'You know I have been telling you we have some hot weather out here. said a westerner to one of the Englishmen. 'Well, look at that sprinkling can. It has been so hot that it has melted the spout right off! And the farther west you get the hotter it gets,' the native son finished as he noticed the awed look on the foreigner's face."

She Says We're Much Too Slender. A Russian princess who is now in Washington has created a commotion in social circles by criticising the

Everywhere you see the American, whether she is going shopping, visiting or elsewhere, she is moving fast, fellow who is always ready to tell a as if she did not have a second to lose." The princess doesn't seem to was riding down through Arizona last realize that just now the one aim of summer on a train on which there the American woman is the extreme was a party of Englishmen. You slenderness which she finds so un-For a New Umbrella.

Before using a new umbrella inject small quantity of vaseline into the hinge portions of the frame. Vaseline will not spread like oil and spoil the covering, and is a sure preventive against rust. Wet umbrellas should be stood on their handles to

dry; this allows the water to run out of them, instead of into the part where the silk and ribs meet, thus causing the metal to rust and the silk to rot. Andrew Lang's Handicap. The London Spectator says that

Andrew Lang always had poor health. and most of his work was done when he was tired and sick. This being the case, it is easy to understand and forgive his frequent crankiness.

In the Beginning. "Papa, why does the frost always come in the fall?" "The habit, my son,

DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

A Brief Resume of Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capital, Bills Introduced, Passed, Rejected, Etc.

FOR COMPETITION ON ROADS ATTORNEY - GENERAL RULES

"He's gone," I whispered, gripping

"I know, I know. Keep quiet."
As we stood there listening, I heard

"It appears to me that we shall

have an interesting evening," said Ad-

A twist in the passage, a turn

through a door, and we were rattling

moonlit yard. In the denser darkness

came a subtle aroma in which stale

"He's off, sir," said the serjeant,

for it was he. "Rushed by, shaking

much depended. Indeed, I could have

that trotted on either hand.

rank, if you please, Jackson."

the sudden clatter of boots upon a

my companion by the arm.

stairway, and then silence.

dington Peace.

slipping to our side.

stopped us.

moved away.

plation.

the wall.

front of him.

"Yes, sir."

Place, and I came here."

"They didn't see any of you?"

"You had better join the others in

Harden Place. Keep within hearing.

and if I whistle, kick in the side door

"I shall do nothing of the sort."

a fraud, Mr. Phillips-rather a fraud,

er than a dilletante in you, after all.

CHRONICLES TO BE CONTINUED.

"Mutiny," he said; but I could see

"No, sir, I am sure of it."

Be Allowed to Bid. Salem - Open competition will be had on all road contracts, if the senate adopts an amendment to the Barrett and Hurd road bill, officially known as senate bill 12, made by the house after one of the hottest fights on the floor at this legislative session. The bill

was then passed. Section 24 was the only one madman. Where has he gone, do you which objection was raised. It prohibited any state or county official "To Amaroff's studio; and we must get there before him. The nearest cabbids for any patented article for road

We ran through the yard, hustled up Lewelling, of Linn, started the fight the narrow streets, lost ourselves, as far as I was concerned, in a maze of stricken from the bill. He was secalleys, and finally shot out into a roaronded by Forbes, of Crook, who ing thoroughfare, crowded with a strolling population. No cab was in sought to prohibit trust grafts being lic education in Oregon. sight. Opposite the lamps of the unworked off on the people, "it in reality derground station the inspector prevents certain paving companies "It would be quicker," he said, with into the hands of a trust that stretches a jerk of the head, and we turned into out its tentacles into every city, town the booking-office and galloped down and hamlet from Maine to California the stairs. Luck was with us, and we

-the Barber Asphalt company." tumbled into a carriage as the train After a sharp skirmish, in which Parsons, of Linn, made a desperate We were not alone, and we jour- but futile effort to have the section neyed in silence. Station after sta- retained intact with but a few words tion slipped by, until at last we were changed, the house demanded the vote in the southwestern district again. My and the roll call showed that the enexcitement increased as we fled up tire section had been eliminated. the stairs of the South Kensington sta-

tion. Here was a new sensation, keen, EIGHT-HOUR LAW DEFEATED virile, natural; here was a race worth the trouble it involved. I did not un-

House Passes Ten Other Senate derstand; but I knew that on our speed Bills in Short Order.

shouted aloud, but for the influence of Salem — Getting down to work legislature will be called on promptly at 10:30 Monday morning the shape of appropriations. those two quiet, unemotional figures after the week-end adjournment, the I regretted nothing-an hour of this house made rapid progress, passing ten senate bills and defeating one, was worth a year of artistic contemwhich was perhaps the most important away and the final tale has been told At the corner we found a hansom, of them all - the eight-hour law. that this will be a much more expensand soon were rattling down the This was a measure passed by the peo- ive legislature than the one two years King's Road. When the cab stopped, ple at a recent election, but it carried ago. to the inspector's order, it was not, no enabling clause and was held to be as I expected, at the corner of Harden without effect. It was a bill by Sen-Place, but a street preceding it. Down ator Smith, of Curry.

this we walked quickly until we came Defeat of the bill is believed not to upon a seedy-looking fellow with a red muffler about his neck, leaning against the house to have been brought about lopped off. The committees of both wished to discipline Representative with ways and means, are slashing I was surprised when we halted in speech for the bill. "Good evening, Harrison," said the

In some manner, it is said, he had "They're there, sir. They came about ten minutes ago. Job and Turner are watching the door in Harden

Notice Given of Movement for Reconsideration. Salem-An effort to put through the

senate a substitute conspiracy bill prestory, and I thank you for your con- to the door that is due in about five pared in the district attorney's office GIVES GOVERNOR BIG STICK of Multnomah county failed Saturday. It received but 15 favorable votes with Bean and Miller absent. As a

result a motion to reconsider will be The detective faded discreetly into made. With Miller present Senator still Siberia for Ivan Kroll just as the darkness, while the inspector McColloch is satisfied that the necessary 16 votes for passing will be se-"There may be complications, Mr. cured.

The bill as originally introduced by McColloch made it a crime to conspire tute measure passed the senate. to commit a crime or to conspire to defraud. The substitute biil provides al bill, which allowed the governor only that it shall be a crime to conspire to defraud and its introducer stated openly that the present bill is to hit bill. Under the new bill officials may at paving combinations and collusive be supplanted for periods of 90 days, bidding on all public work.

Goat Meat Big Problem.

shall be sold for mutton is the weighty of the state. question which came up in the house on Senate bill 22, by Burgess.

It seems, from the statements made on the floor of the house, that some outchers in the state have been making the sheep the goat by pretending years. to sell mutton chops and other choice portions of "spring lamb," when in reality they were selling plain old tions at Salem, appropriating \$50,000 compelling the sign "goat meat" to nite period. be placed on goat meat.

Textbook Bill Passed.

Salem - With some opposition the Miller textbook bill passed the senate. This bill provides that one-third of the textbooks of the schools shall be changed every two years, this third to make up the textbooks for that divison for the following six years.

Thus under the bill no textbooks will be changed oftener than six years, of the measures to be killed was that but a portion of them will be changed of Howard to teach sex hygiene in the every two years.

Anti-Lobbyist Bill Passes.

Salem-The house passed the Scheubel anti-lobbying bill, which is calculated to keep the lobbyists off the floor of both houses and to force them to register with the secretary of state their names and the name, or names, of the persons, or persons, by whom they are employed. It also requires them to make a sworn statement of their expenditures at the captital.

Filing Fee Bill Defeated.

Salem-Senator Barrett's bill, providing for a filing fee instead of a petition, for candidates for office, met defeat in the house. Eaton of Lane and others held that, although the primary and election laws are unsatisfactory, this would be no improvement. In fact, they argued, it would

House Says All Companies Should School Fund Must Be Held Intact by Land Board.

> Salem-Attorney-General Crawford has ruled on two important matters relating to the administration of the state's affairs.

In response to an inquiry from George G. Brown, clerk of the state land board, he holds that the irreducible school fund is to be devoted solely to maintaining the public schools of the state. He holds further that dishaving road work in charge to accept bursements of the state school fund may be made by the proper authorities without special appropriation by the legislature, and that furthermore the when he moved that the section be legislature itself could not touch the money in this fund for any other purpose than to direct in what manner it charged, that while the amendment may be expended for the cause of pub-

In reply to the railroad commission Mr. Crawford gives his opinion that the from bidding and delivers the work American District Telegraph company, of San Francisco, comes within the purview of the public utilities act and may be considered as a public utility concern and is subject to regulation of the commission.

The company is engaged in the manufacture of telegraph systems.

Requests for Appropriations Likely to Break All Records.

\$8,287,810 WILL BE ASKED FOR

Salem - The magnificant total of \$8,278,819, according to official figures, as near as can be estimated now, will be the requests that the present legislature will be called on to face in

This will be a record-breaker for requests, but there is no reason to believe that when the smoke has blown

In fact, there are indications that the amount may be reduced below that of two years ago. The scythe is already beginning to mow down approbe of any importance, as it is said in priation bills, over \$100,000 being for the reason that certain members the house and the senate, having to do Lawrence, of Multnomah, who made a right and left on institutional and other appropriations.

In some manner, it is said, it aroused the anger of some members, who decided to vote the bill down this have been put in, and the list success that have been introduced, but the estimate have been made for the NEW CONSPIRACY BILL FAILS various state boards, commissions, offices and institutions, so that it gives a fairly adequate idea of the entire financial situation that now presents itself to the legislative assem-

Executive Supplant District Attor-

neys, Sheriffs and Constables. Salem-Only four votes were mustered against the substitute bill by the senate judiciary committee giving power to supplant district attorneys. sheriffs and constables, and the substi-

The drastic provisions of the originsummarily to supplant such officials, were materially softened in the new but only after they have been given a hearing in court and the Circuit judge decides that such officer as not been Salem - Whether or not goat meat faithfully executing the criminal laws

Senate Kills \$100,000 Bill.

Salem-The senate, in a single swat cut off a bill that contemplated the expenditure of \$100,000 in the next two

The bill provided for furnishing a pure water supply for state institu-The house voted down the bill a year for that purpose for an indefi-

It was introduced by Day by request and was given an adverse report by the committee. No effort was made to defend it and it died a sudden death.

Senate Kills Several Bills.

Salem-Several bills fell under the ax in the senate Wednesday and they will prabably not reappear again this session. Among the more important public schools. Moser's bill regulating vehicles; McDonald's relating to physicians and druggists and the dispensing of alcoholic liquors, and Bonebrake's to regulate the sale and use of poison, were all indefinitely postponed and sent into the discard by the upper body.

Saddle Mountain Park Asked.

Salem-Congress is urged to create a Saddle Mountain park, in a memorial introduced in the senate by Lester. The purpose of the park is to protect the water supply which is reserved on Saddle Mountain, the supply furnishing water for all the Oregon coast from the Columbia river to Tillamook Head, according to the memorial.

Would Purchase Locks.

Salem-The house passed the Hagood bill, consenting to the purchase forever shut off the office seeking the of the canal and locks at Oregon City. There was no opposition.