

# The Double Squeeze

By Henry Beach Needham

ILLUSTRATED BY IRWIN MYERS

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been admitted to the parlor of a suite, and had met a nice young fellow, obviously a gentleman, who greeted him cordially.

The contract—it had the name of the Transcontinental Newspaper syndicate printed in, he was sure. He had read it very carefully, and the terms were precisely what had been offered him. While he was reading it, he remembered, Mr. Noble had taken from his bill case without any flourish five hundred dollars. He could remember seeing the money lying on the table, the bills folded over once.

The bills in his hand now were folded once!

But something was going wrong with his memory. It had been spinning the tale of events without effort, but suddenly it had begun to flag. He had to prod it. What was it Mr. Noble

ful upon his face. He spoke with marked cordiality.

"Mr. James—good morning, sir. Open you are feeling better, sir."

"My name is Shute—good morning."

"Mr. Shute—very well, sir." The steward puckered his lips.

"Where are we now?"

"About one hundred and fifty miles out, sir."

"Out?—you mean from land?"

"From New York, sir."

"I've got to get off! Where's the captain? He'll have to stop the boat!"

The steward placed a soothing hand upon the passenger's shoulder. "I'd lie down if I were you, sir, and rest a little more—get your sea legs on, Mr. James."

Without taking notice of the persistent error in nomenclature, Win Shute announced: "I'm going to see the captain. Where is he?"

"On the bridge, sir."

"Take me to him!" His inflection compelled obedience.

Once in a championship game Win Shute had worked the pitcher for a free pass in first, had stolen second and then third, and when pitcher was winding up had raced home, hooking his leg over the plate and eluding the catcher who tried to put the ball on him. This is the only explanation that can be offered why and how "Mr. S. W. James" succeeded in getting to the captain of the bridge. The governor-general of the ship was so surprised that he didn't ask the determined-looking young man how he had managed it. "Captain, my name is Shute—mostly called Win Shute."

The captain nodded, but without a glimmer of understanding.

"You've probably heard of the world series—championship of the big leagues?"

"American baseball?"

"Yes—games to decide the best team in the world," explained Win eagerly.

"What of it?" was the captain's rejoinder.

"This," said Shute, pausing for emphasis: "I'm the second baseman, heavy hitter, and leading base runner on one of the teams—the Giant-killers, folks call us."

"What of that?" varies the captain. His tone was not unkind, but he showed a wretched lack of interest.

"First game's today—in two hours."

"I take it you are not going to play."

There was amusement in the captain's eyes.

"Not play? I've got to play!"

The captain looked at him searchingly, shook his head, and turned his eyes to the sea.

"Captain, you don't appreciate what this means—not to me alone, but to our club and to the fans of our city. Why, it's the biggest event of the year. I got to be there."

There was another scrutinizing look from the master of the vessel, who said nothing.

"How can I get you to stop the ship?"

The captain smiled. "If you pressed for an answer, I should have to say that you couldn't get me to stop the ship."

"For whom would you stop her?"

"The officers of the line," replied the captain, smiling amiably.

"Very well, then," said Win quietly, "you'll get orders from the Hambar line to stop her. See you later, captain."

The steward, in the expectant attitude of a curious person anticipating trouble, was surprised when "Mr. James," who wanted to be called Mr. Shute, returned from his encounter with the captain in perfect composure, though a trifle hurried. He plucked the steward by the arm, and again spoke authoritatively:

"Now take me to the wireless operator—and what's his name?"

"Mr. Mansel—Jerrold Mansel. You may have heard of 'im, sir."

"Yes, sir, the hoperator who saved the Regent. It's not the regular 'wireless' on this ship—our regular's sick, and Mansel is making the voyage for 'im, sir."

The quarters of the wireless operator were temporarily unoccupied, however. The "Hero of the Regent" was not at his post of duty.

It was after much searching that they came upon the operator. Jed Mansel was seated in an inconspicuous corner of the library, engaged in what seemed to be an intimate conversation with an uncommonly pretty girl. After pointing him out, the steward made a hasty retreat. Win Shute didn't lose a moment's time.

"Pardon me for butting in—but are you the wireless operator of the ship?"

Mansel scowled and nodded impatiently.

"I want to send a message, please."

"I'll be in my room on the boat deck in about fifteen minutes." And Jed

Mansel turned to the pretty girl.

"Fifteen minutes won't do," said Shute positively. "I must get it right off—it's very important."

Mansel was inclined to put up an argument, but a certain look in the eye of James Winton Shute—that or something else—caused him to think better of it.

"As S. O. S. from duty, Miss Riley. May I hope to see you after luncheon?"

"You may hope," she replied half jestingly, and turned to select a book.

Jed Mansel laid the course, but Win Shute set the pace.

This was the wireless message which was given to the operator of the steamship Colonia to transmit to the nearest station in the United States:

"Tris Ford, Philadelphia:

"Was probably drugged last night and carried aboard steamship Colonia, Hambar line. We are one hundred and fifty miles out of New York, bound Naples. Have officers line wireless captain to stop ship and you send fast boat for me. Well and able to play. SHUTE."

"How long will it take to get that off?" inquired Win.

"Can't say—no telling how long it'll take to raise 'em."

"I'll wait," said Shute.

It was an hour before the wireless operator reported that the message had been transmitted to the shore. He then announced that he was going to lunch.

"But how about the reply? Who'll be here to receive it?"

"It'll be two hours at least before we get an answer," said Mansel.

An hour later Jed Mansel returned and found the persistent passenger waiting at his cabin door. Slowly a half-hour passed.

"Can't you raise 'em?" asked Win impatiently.

"Here comes something," said the operator encouragingly. After much clicking, Mansel shook his head.

"Sorry, but it's not for you."

He was an endlessly long time receiving and transcribing the message. Then he summoned a deck steward and told him to find Miss Riley and give her the Marconigram.

"Repeat my message," ordered Shute, "word for word. Here's for both." He paid the operator with a yellow-backed bill.

Four times that afternoon the wireless operator repeated at twenty-five cents a word, including the address and signature, the message to Tris Ford. But there was no reply. Win was getting desperate, and showed it, when the operator remarked:

"Here's something—mebbe this is it."

Win braced up. But after a bit of the metallic chattering, Mansel again shook his head. "Not for you—for the captain."

"For the captain?" Win's tone was eager. "That's the stuff!" He was thinking of orders from the officers of the line.

The operator transcribed the message, put it in an envelope, and went off to deliver it himself. When he came back he confided the information: "I'm going to send a message from the captain—about you." That was all, but it raised the wavering spirits of the young man who would not leave the upper deck.

There was another tedious delay. Finally, along about five o'clock, there were the auditory evidences of the approach of a winged message. Then further delay while the wireless operator played his important part in the space-conquering trick.

"Sorry, but it's not for you. For the captain again," he volunteered.

"Might be just as good," said Win, "perhaps better."

The operator didn't reply. He went away to deliver the message and was gone "ages." Returning, he informed the "good waiter" that the captain would like to see him.

Win Shute was off to the bridge as he might have started for second. High ran his hopes. He could almost feel the ship slowing down!

The captain invited him into the chartroom and closed the door. Without a word he handed him a Marconigram, which ran:

"Captain, S. S. Colonia:

"Must be some mistake. Our player Shute here in game today.

"TRIS FORD."

After reading it over a second time to make sure, the captain's visitor, shaking his head doggedly, spoke in no uncertain voice:

"The mistake is in the message. Tris Ford never sent it."

(To Be Continued.)

Cities Gave Names to Fabrics.

About the year 1329 the woolen trade of England became located at Worsted, about 15 miles from Norwich, and it was at this place that the manufacture of the twisted double thread woolen, afterwards called worsted, was first made. If not invented, Linsey-wolsey was first made at Linsey, and was for a long time a very popular fabric. Kerseymere takes its name from the village of Kersey, and the mere close by it, in the county of Suffolk.

Stone Used as Barometer.

There is in the northern part of Finland a curious stone which serves the people instead of a barometer. This stone, which the Finns call B-makur, turns black or a blackish gray when bad weather is approaching. Fine weather has the effect of turning it almost white. The Finns regard the stone with superstitious reverence, but the scientists say that its changes in color are due to salts contained in its composition.

## POULTRY

### PULLETS MAKE BEST LAYERS

It Seldom Pays to Keep Hens for Eggs After They Are 2½ Years Old—Young Fowls Favored.

There are people who have the right variety of fowls, who house and feed them properly, and yet who cannot obtain eggs early in the winter because their fowls are too old. It seldom pays to keep hens for laying after they are two and one-half years old; not that they will not give a profit, but that younger fowls will give a greater profit, says the United States department of agriculture. A great many poultrymen who make a specialty of winter egg production keep nothing but pullets, disposing of the one-year-old hens before it is time to put them in the winter quarters.



Flock of White Leghorn Pullets.

The champion of the girls' poultry clubs of Mississippi keeps nothing but pullets.

Early hatched pullets, if properly grown, ought to begin laying in October or early November and continue to lay through the winter. Yearling hens seldom begin laying much before January 1 and older hens not until later. It is the November and December eggs that bring the high prices. The laying breeds should begin laying when about from five to six months old, general-purpose breeds at six to seven months, and the meat breeds at eight to nine months.

### VARIETY OF FOOD FOR HENS

Fowls Easily Obtain Different Things Necessary to Make Eggs and Maintain Body.

Constantly feeding one or two grains only compels the fowls to eat more than they ought to and make their digestive systems work too hard trying to get all the different food elements in sufficient quantity out of this material. By feeding a variety of food the fowls are not obliged to consume so great an amount and they can more easily obtain the different things required to maintain the body and make eggs.

### SIMPLE REMEDY FOR WORMS

Give Twenty Drops of Turpentine in Milk or Water and Mix in Mash for Morning Feed.

For worms in poultry give 20 drops of turpentine for each 12 adult chickens; less for smaller chicks. Put that amount in one quart of milk or water; mix in mash in morning. No other feed; also put one teaspoonful of copperas in each gallon of drinking water.

### POULTRY KEPT AS SIDE LINE

Hardly Any Activity of Modern Farming Which Will Pay Better Than Flock of Hens.

Properly developed and fostered, poultry is one of the most profitable side lines in which most farmers can become interested and, at present there is hardly any activity of modern farming which will pay better than the maintenance and production of good poultry.

## POULTRY NOTES

Spade up the yard frequently.

Get rid of all surplus cockerels.

Feed table scraps and kitchen waste.

Keep the hens confined to your own land.

Fowls stand cold better than dampness.

Hatching eggs should be selected only from healthy, hearty, vigorous parent stock.

Yes, sir, the poultry business of America is more important than we realize.

Two quarts of scratch feed twice a day in the litter makes a fair allowance for 25 hens, if they have plenty of wash and vegetables besides.

## DIDN'T HAVE WELL DAY FOR 25 YEARS

San Francisco Woman Has Gained Thirty Pounds by Taking Tanlac.

"I had not seen a well day in 25 years until I started taking Tanlac," said Mrs. Virginia Stapp of 185 Valencia street, San Francisco, Cal.

"I was beginning to think," she continued, "that I would have to bear my wretched health as long as I lived. I had no appetite, and when I managed to eat a few bites I could not digest it, and, as I could get no strength or nourishment, I fell off 25 pounds in weight. I hardly knew what it was to be without a headache. All my life I have been so constipated that every day for years I had to take a laxative. My tongue was always coated and I had a bad taste in my mouth all the time. My condition was so bad that I could get little sleep, but would roll and toss about all night long.

"But all that is changed now, for, since taking Tanlac, I am able to eat anything I please without any bad after effects and I have actually gained 30 pounds. I haven't had a headache in so long I have almost forgotten about them. My constipated condition has been relieved and I never have that bad taste or coated tongue any more. I sleep nine to ten hours every night, can do my housework with ease, and I have so much new life and energy that I just feel fine all the time."

Tanlac is sold in Bend by the Owl Drug Co., in Sisters by George F. Aaitwen, and in Bend by the Horton Drug Co.

### Wonderful Shakespeares.

Among the English authors, Shakespeare has incomparably excelled all others. That noble extravagance of fancy, which he had in so great perfection, thoroughly qualified him to touch the weak, superstitious part of his readers' imagination and made him capable of succeeding where he had nothing to support him besides the strength of his own genius.—Addison.

### Electric Ovens.

Electric heat finds its widest use in ovens, which have proved specially valuable in the automobile industry for baking the Japan on car bodies. By this means Japan is baked on 3,000 bodies every day. Other large users of such ovens are telephone and typewriter factories, foundries, makers of iron frames for beds and cots and manufacturers of chemicals. Electric devices of the sort are employed for baking effervescent salts, and for drying a large variety of products requiring well-regulated heat and clean air in the oven itself.

Ermine Fur. The ermine fur, with which we are all familiar, is furnished by the stoat, a small animal of the weasel tribe.

## MILLIONS FOR SPARE MOMENTS

The International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pennsylvania, celebrated their twenty-seventh anniversary in October, 1918, with an enrollment of over 2,000,000 students. Thousands of these students have figured in dollars and cents the actual value to them of the spare moments devoted to the study of I.C.S. technical Courses in other subjects ranging from Advertising and Salesmanship to Agriculture and Poultry Husbandry.

\$95.00 an hour has been figured by many of these students to be a conservative estimate to them of the value of the spare moments spent in study of I.C.S. Courses.

Reports on 27,000 typical students show 14,999 now receiving \$1,500 a year or more; 2,451 receiving \$2,500 or more; 413 receiving \$5,000 or more; 20 receiving \$10,000 or more; and 8 with annual incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In the twenty-seven years of its existence the I.C.S. has enrolled six times as many students as Harvard in the two hundred and seventy-eight years since its organization; more than ten times the total enrollment of Yale since its doors swung open in 1701; more than five times the total enrollment of all of the colleges, universities and technical schools in the United States combined.

A letter or a post card will bring complete information regarding the subject in which you are interested.

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- Miss Foreman or Engr.
- Stationary Engineer
- ARCHITECT
- Contractor or Builder
- Architectural Draftsman
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- Railway Accountant
- TRAFFIC MANAGER
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