

GUNMAN'S BLUFF

Edgar Wallace

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Synopsis

Rex Laferre forges the name of Luke Maddison, wealthy banker and his sister Margaret's fiance, to a large check. He is found dead with a note in his handwriting charging Luke with having ruined him. Margaret marries Luke, after he has given her everything he owns. She leaves him, telling him she has ruined him to revenge her brother. Luke, bewildered, wanders about London, is attacked by thugs, who take him for a detective, recovers in hospital to find he is known as Smith. In this new character he becomes involved with the Joe Connor gang, who mistake him for an Australian crook named Smith, and is made an unwilling accomplice in a jewel robbery. He does not know that Margaret has relented and returned all the money he gave her to his bankers, to the dismay of one Danton Morell, her dead brother's friend, concerning whom Gunner Haynes, an American jewel thief, whom Maddison once befriended, has been making inquiries. Detective Bird of Scotland Yard, know also as the Sparrow, is likewise interested in Morell. Maddison goes to his old bachelor quarters, is taken for a burglar, escapes from the police and tries to get in touch with Detective Bird. The Connor gang learns of this, sandbag and imprison him in an underground cell near the river where he is certain to be drowned when the tide rises. Meantime Margaret, revisiting Luke's old rooms, finds a sheet of paper on which Luke has begun a letter to his friend and lawyer saying that he is in desperate trouble. Margaret's joy over the discovery that Luke is alive and in London is tempered by the statement of Detective Gorton that the man concerned in the jewel robbery, whom she now knows was Luke, had been going around for two years with the woman whose accomplice he was.

Now go on with the story.

She was stunned, bewildered; she could only shake her head in feeble protest.

"It couldn't have been the same man," she said at last.

"Do you know him—the fellow who was here?" The detective looked at her keenly.

"No, no. I only thought it would be such an extraordinary coincidence."

"I've got an idea Mr. Gorton knows him. I heard him telling the sergeant that he might be the fellow who was knifed the night that a man named Lewing was killed. If that's the case, he's only been out of hospital a few days."

She offered the officer some money which he refused with great firmness and escorted her to her taxi. She was reminded by the fare, when she got to her home, that she had been away for two hours.

She was not shocked; it was too tremendous a discovery to produce emotional phenomena of the commonplace kind. She accepted Luke Maddison, banker, burglar, hold-up man, companion of questionable ladies, with the calmness of a scientist who had happened upon a new and interesting discovery.

Here was an immense happening. To display anger or humiliation would be absurd. One had no regard for a sense of decency when fleeing from an earthquake and its tumbling walls.

She went to bed; and such is the serenity of a resolute mind that she slept dreamlessly. In the morning while she was sitting at breakfast came Inspector Gorton; she listened calmly to his confession of failure.

"The fellow ran like a hare. He must have been a trained athlete. I'm pretty sure now that he is the fellow who was knifed in a fight in South London. Lewing was killed."

"Who is Lewing," she asked. Gorton shrugged his broad shoulders.

"Nobody in particular, although he gave his name to a gang. The real leader of that crowd is a gentleman named Danton Morell—though he has not taken any very active . . ."

She had put down her cup. He saw how white her face was.

"Danton Morell? You don't mean Mr. Danton Morell who lives in Hair Moon street?"

Gorton smiled.

"Perhaps I oughtn't to have said that, but I thought Mr. Bird had told you. You know Mr. Bird? I hope you don't know Mr. Morell!"

"I know him very well," she said; her voice was steady and she was smiling.

"But you may rely on my discretion, Inspector—I feel almost like a Scotland Yard officer myself."

She had her hands folded in her lap so that he could not see how they were trembling.

"He may, of course, have turned over a new leaf," said Gorton, uneasily conscious that he had said the wrong thing. "Some of these fellows do. I know there's been no complaint against him at the Yard for a very long time. Morell isn't his name, of course—I forget what it was, but the Sparrow—I mean Mr. Bird, knows."

Wonderful fellow, Danty! He can talk the hind leg off a donkey. They say he's the cleverest confidence man in Europe. Perhaps he's made enough money to retire."

Danton Morell! How had she come to know him? She tried to trace back the friendship. Of course, it was her brother—who had introduced him. Rex knew so many queer people. She trusted him—she had trusted Danty. She had believed him implicitly, believed him when he told her that Luke had hounded her brother to his death, believed him when he had produced that pitiable note written on two small sheets of notepaper—

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CHERRY GROWERS MEET TO BE HELD SATURDAY

A meeting of all cherry growers in Lane county has been called by O. S. Fletcher, Lane county agricultural agent, to be held at the Eugene chamber of commerce on Saturday, at 1:30 o'clock, for the purpose of acquainting cherry growers with a spray which is now being prepared and which is a sure remedy for infected orchards.

S. R. Jones, new field entomologist at the Oregon State Agricultural college, will attend the meeting and explain to the fruit men how they can apply the spray and when it can be applied to be effective in saving present crop.

This is the first of a series of similar meetings to be held in Willamette valley within the next few weeks, by Mr. Jones.

POISON BARLEY DEMAND IS HEAVY THIS SEASON

There has been a heavy demand this year for poison barley, according to O. S. Fletcher, Lane county agricultural agent, who is distributing the poison. He now has 65 rodent control supervisors at work in all parts of the county, and these men are notifying the farmers who have infected land to begin poisoning at once. Those who do not comply with the notice and those who own land and do not farm it or have not sublet it, will have to pay the costs of having the work done on their lands.

The recent warm rains will greatly aid the planting of alfalfa this year, thinks the county agent. The seeds have started to grow and it will soon be possible to kill them and still have enough moisture in the ground to start the alfalfa seed before the dry summer weather sets in.

C. W. ALLEN SECRETARY OF LANE JERSEY GROUP

C. W. Allen, of Vida, was elected secretary of the Lane county Jersey Cattle club at a meeting held in the Eugene chamber of commerce rooms on Saturday afternoon. The other officers are H. L. Plank, of Cottage Grove, president; C. A. Barker, of Blachly, vice-president; and William Wells, of Cottage Grove, chairman of the executive committee.

Alvin Longary, national field representative of the Jersey breeders' association, attended the meeting and spoke on the work of the association and the general problems of dairying. It was also decided to send a delegation to the Linn-Benton Jersey show to be held at Albany on May 23.

SCHOOL MEN TO SETTLE DEERHORN BOUNDARY

Monday, May 19, has been set as the time for the county school boundary board to decide upon the matter of adding some land in the Deerhorn district to the Deerhorn school district for the purpose of enabling the district to increase their tax levy. About twenty residents have petitioned the boundary board for the change, and several of the people who own the land desired to be incorporated in the school district have protested, saying that their property is in unorganized territory, and that most of it is being used for summer homes, and would not be aided by the school district.

TOOK SODA FOR STOMACH FOR 20 YEARS

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TWO BRIDGE SITES FOR WILLAMETTE PROPOSED

Two proposed sites for the bridge to cross the upper Willamette river on the Willamette highway above Oakridge will probably be discussed at the next meeting of the state highway commission at Portland on May 24, according to an announcement made public last week.

Surveys for two proposed sites have been prepared by members of the engineering department. One provides for a crossing three miles above Oakridge, and the second site is just below the city.

MOTHER'S DAY OCCASION FOR FAMILY DINNER

Mother's Day last Sunday meant more than just another Mother's Day for Mrs. Katie Brumette of this city, when nearly all of her children surprised her by gathering at her home, bringing with them a complete dinner, which was enjoyed by the mother, the children, and the grandchildren.

Those who were present for the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Thompson and son, Darrell, of Santa Clara; Mr. and Mrs. C. Walsh and daughter, Opal, of Lowell; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Eaton and son, Orval, and daughter, Edith, of Springfield; and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Carter, of Swishome.

Garage Gets New Sign

A large "Garage" sign was hung over the sidewalk in front of the Parker garage on west Main street last Friday and Saturday.

Quarterly Meeting Scheduled

Dr. M. A. Marcey will preside at the quarterly meeting of the Methodist church on next Thursday evening, in the church parlors. Reports of the various departments and organizations for the quarter, which is the last one in the church year, will be read and acted upon.

MICKY MOUSE CLUB TO PARADE IN EUGENE

Headed by the Eugene high school band and the Washington drum and bugle corps, the Micky Mouse club, several hundred strong, goes on parade this Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock, with Tenth and Olive as the starting point, it was announced by the grand chief Micky Mouse from his managerial office in the Fox McDonald theatre.

For several weeks the Micky Mouse club kiddies have been at work on their costumes, many having attended the regular Saturday morning meetings attired as Mickey and Minnie Mice, pirates, clowns, cats, and every imaginable kind of being. Prizes have been given at every meeting for the ten best costumes, and now, with the grand parade a reality, a long list of prizes will be given. Merchants in every line of business are boosters of the Micky Mouse club, and many of these merchants are giving valuable merchandise prizes for the best costume in the parade.

Micky Mouse club members are making banners to carry in the line of march, and a colorful event is promised those lining the sidewalks between 10 and 11 Saturday morning. The club officers, wearing their official Micky Mouse badges, will ride in state in the latest model automobiles, provided by dealers for the occasion, and younger children will also be in cars, if they so desire.

The kiddies will gather on the vacant lot back of the Y. M. C. A. building at 11th and Olive, before 10 o'clock Saturday morning, and under the direction of the grand chief Micky Mouse, Russell F. Brown, and the senior master of ceremonies, Sharkey Moore, assisted by William Havalland and Jerry Hoyt, chief Micky Mouse traffic officers, the kiddies will be formed into parade formation and started on their way.

The line of march will follow east on 10th avenue, from Olive, north on Willamette and on down Broadway, east on Broadway to Oak, north to 8th avenue, west to Willamette, and south to the Fox McDonald theatre, where their regular Saturday morning Micky Mouse club meeting will start at 11:15. Many Springfield Micky Mice are expected to march in the parade and attend the club meeting.

SPRINGFIELD PEOPLE ATTEND CHURCH DINNER

A large group of Springfield people attended the dinner and meeting of the Brotherhood of the Methodist church in Eugene on Friday evening of last week. Dr. Weatherbee, returned missionary, was the principal speaker, describing Ghandi and the

trouble which is now bothering India. The high school quartet sang several numbers.

Those who attended the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bartholomew, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Drury, Mr. and Mrs. William Maybe, Mrs. A. B. Van Valsah, Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Page, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Pollard, and Dr. N. W. Emery.



"Lest We Forget"

A CEMETERY is a place of tender and sacred memories. Next to the home itself, it is the spot where our deepest sentiments are hallowed and enshrined. To choose this place with careful forethought, and to provide for its perpetual maintenance is a natural and noble human need.

It is in response to this need that Rest-Haven Memorial Park is being developed. In this Park—so admirably located, and so artistically planned—will be found the ideal expression of man's wish to surround the last resting place of his forbears and his family with tranquility and beauty and security.

Rest-Haven is a Community Enterprise. It is Your Privilege to Participate.

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ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY

"Mickey Mouse" Programs

We will broadcast over KORE from the McDonald Theatre EVERY SATURDAY from 11:15 to 12 noon. Be sure to tune in on our program at that time.

SERVE YOURSELF AND SAVE



M. S. BARKER

Republican Candidate for

County Commissioner

Vote for Barker

Why, because he was and is a man who is interested in the advancement of this county. Barker more than any other man was the instigator who induced the Southern Pacific Railway Company to build the railroad from Eugene to Marshfield. Barker has been and is a good road booster. Barker was appointed a delegate from Oregon to the International good roads Congress that met at Buffalo, N. Y., at the Pan-American Exposition. Barker helped to locate the woolen mills in Eugene; he also helped locate the Eugene Fruit Growers' Association in Eugene. Barker's merchandising, contracting and manufacturing experience will be of much value in saving some of the taxpayers' money.

VOTE FOR BARKER

Barker will work to keep the McKenzie Pass open, thus doubling the value of this beautiful highway. Barker will work for the use of our famous Douglas Fir lumber to build beautiful designed and painted bridges, making the highways more beautiful. These bridges will cost only about one-half as much as the old ugly steel bridges and will last just as long.

VOTE FOR BARKER AND BE PLEASED

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