HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES, HEPPNER, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1926.



that the Reverend Theodosius was

Carl Peterson, it was still more in-

conceivable that the wool knitter

could be Irms. Of course, Peterson might have changed his daughter-but if he hadn't, what then? What had he said to Peter Darrell when

the girl, recognizing him all the time, was sitting in the next chair? How

CHAPTER I.—To a gathering of anar-chists in Barking. London suburb, Zaboleff, foreign agitator, tells of the operations of a body of men who have become a menace to their activities. He is interrupted by the men he is describing (the Black Gang), who break up the meeting, sentencing some of the participants to condign punishment and carrying away others. A memorandum found on Zaboleff gives an address in Hox-ton, London, which the leader of the at-tacking party considers of importance.

CHAPTER II.—Sir Bryan Johnstone, di-rector of criminal investigation, hears from Inspector McIver, sent to arrest Zaboleff the night before, of his disconfiture. He had been seized and chloroformed and his raid frustrated. Hugh Drummad, man of leisure and old friend of Johnstone's ar-rives and tells of seeing the kidnapers and their victims. He becomes an unpaid agent of the police, to be under the direction of McIver, and takes up his duties at once.

CHAPTER III.-A "Mr. William Atkin-son," ostensibly pawnbroker and money lender, really Count Zadowa, director of anarchy in England, does buainess in an-other London suburb. A mysterious stran-ger invades the premises. Count Zadowa, after a brief glimpse f the intruder, is strangely disconcerted.

In nurrou at them from an adjoining room. CHAPTER V.— The explosion kills "Ginger Martin," expert hurgiar whom Drummond had employed to open Atkin-son's safe. Drummond and his friend es-cape, taking with them a bag they find on the floor. Neither Drummond nor his com-panion at the time find out what it con-tains.

tains. CHAPTER VI.—At a fashionable hotel Rev. Theodoaius Longmoor and his daugh-ter Janet are guests. "Longmoor" is really Carl Peterson, international crook, with whom Drummond has an old feud. Zadowa tella Longmoor and his daughter of the bomb he had hurled, which he believes killed the three invaders. Longmoor is en-raged, pointing out that the diamonds (Russian crown jewels, of which Zadowa had known nothing) had been lost thru his action. Longmoor insists that Zadowa recover the diamonds, suggesting that they may be in the hands of the police, and warning his subordinate (Longmoor is ad-dressed by Zadowa as "chief") that failure will be punished with death. CHAPTER VIL—Drummond discovers

CHAPTER VII.-Drummond discovers that Longmoor, most cleverly disguised, is Carl Peterson. Janet, at the same time, recognizes in Drummond the leader of the Black Gang, and their old enemy.

CHAPTER VIII

garded him in silence. Then, dismissing a strong inclination to throw this unexpected apparition under a

passing furniture van, he raised his eyebrows slightly and removed his cigar from his mouth. Evidently the next move had begun, and he felt curious as to what form it would

curious as to what form it would take. "My powers as a conversationalist are well known," he remarked, "amongst s large and varied circle. I was not, however, aware that you belonged to it. In other words, sir, who the deuce are you and what the dickens do you want to talk to me shout?"

"Something which concerns us very "Something which concerns us very intimately," returned the other. "And with regard to the first part of your with regard to the first part of your uestion-do you think it necessary to keep up the pretense, especially as there are no witnesses present? I suggest, however, that as our conversation may be a triffe prolonged, and this spot is somewhat draughty, we should adjourn to your house; Brook street, I believe, is where you live, Captain Drummond."

Hugh removed his cigar, and star-ed at the hunchback thoughtfully. "I haven't the slightest wish to have a prolonged conversation with you in any place, draughty or other-wise," he remarked at length. "However, if you are prepared to run the risk of being slung out of the window if you bore me, I'll give you ten minutes. He turned on his heel and strolled slowly on toward his house, while

was sitting in the next chair. How much had she overheard? And sud-denly Hugh began to feel that he was floundering in deep water. He glanced at his watch and turnthe hunchback, shooting venomous giances at him from time to time, walked by his side in silence. And it was not until some five minutes ed to Darroll. "Confound the girl, Peter! She's later when they were both in Drum-mond's study that any further re-

nearly forty minutos late." "Picked up a pal, old boy," an-swered that worthy. "Picked up a pal. mark was made. It was Hugh who spoke, standing with his back to the fireplace, and looking down on the misshaper litand they're masticating a Bath bun somewhere. Why not leave a messnge at the door, and let's go on with it? I'm darned hungry." tle man who sat in an arm-chair facing the light. An unpleasant cus-tomer, he reflected, now that he saw him close to for the first time: a danwith it? I'm darned hungry." The Reverend Theodosius beamed from behind his spectacles. "Tis ever the same," he murmur-ed gently. "But it is the prerogative of their sex." "Well, let's toddle in and take neurichmast " sold Hugh taking hold

upstairs with the poor fellow i told you about, whose office was wrecked last night. He is sadly in need of comfort. I understand that the po-lice are satisfied that three scoun-

"Shall we drop this beating about the bush?" snapped the other. drels were involved in the crime. And two of them have escaped." "I shall drop you down the stairs if you talk to me like that, you d-d little microbe," said Hugh coldly, and "Dirty dogs," said Hugh, frowning, "Now if all three had been found adhering to the furniture it might have reconciled you to the loss of those hundred acid drops." the other got to his feet with a snarl. His eyes, glaring like those of an angry cat, were fixed on Drummond, "In fact," continued the clergyman who suddenly put out a vast hand to screen the lower part of the hunch-back's facc. With a cry of fear he recoiled, and Hugh smiled grimly. So it had been Mr. Atkinson himself helping himself to some fish, "the whole thing is very mysterious. However, the police have every hope of laying their hands on the two others who was brutally assaulted by them has confided to his employer that he fore: the eyes that had glared at him believes he knows who one of the through the crack in the door were other two was. A huge man, Captain unmistakably the same as those he

had just looked into over his own hand. With the rest of the face Drummond, of enormous strength: a man-well, really, do you know? a hand.

but you."

Heralds the Spring

AUTOCASTER

will wear.

tome, he reflected, now that he saw him close to for the first time: a dan gerous, vindictive little devil—but able, distinctly able. Just such a type as Peterson would choose for a tool. "What is it you wish to say to me?" he said curtly. "A few things, Captain Drummond," returned the other, "that may help to clear the air. In the first place may I say how pleased I am to make Gang." "I trust," murmured Hugh solici-tously, "that the san hasn't proved too much for you." "Shall we drop this beating about "Shall we drop this beating about

device. And then will come a very interesting disclosure. He will state how suddenly he saw through a crack in the door a pair of eyes looking at him. And their color—see, what is the color of your eyes?—gray-blue, very noticeable. Much the same as old Longmoor's—though his are a little bluer. And then the owner of the eyes was so incondierate as to

said

ittle bluer. And then the owner of the eyes was so inconsiderate as to throw a bomb in the room; a bomb which killed one of the men, and wrecked the dsek. So that the owner of the eyes, gray-blue eyes just like yours, is a murderer-a common murderer. And we hang men in England for nuurder." He pnused and stared at the hunchback. "This is a stared at the hunchback. "This is a

oily game, isn't it"" Mr. Atkinson became aware of a "And you really imagine," said the boot in the lower portion of his back, CHAPTER VIII
In Which Hugh Drummond, of enormous strength: a man-well, really, do you know? a man I should imagine just like you nad a man, who popular rumor has it, is the head of a mysterious body in the colube no doubt about it, and a man, who popular rumor has it, is the head of a mysterious body is the was still smilling grimly as he was still smilling grimly as he was still smilling grimly as here date a man would wreek his hand.
"Not by the flicker of an eyelid do you?" here is your police would be head to the black Gang. So that should prove a valuable club or the police when they hear of it."
Not by the flicker of an eyelid do you?" here is new development. One card, at was weeted Drummond dogodly. "It's just that one trick he can never shake of the point was how the discust incore trick was down on the tablet his any rate, was down on the tablet his was moving quickly as he took in the fourt tapping with his left hang to be body in the point was how the for the point was how the discust incore worked by a bomb. That boah as killed a man."
"Well, granted you're right." Consort is for the point was how this is fight new development. One card, at was known to Peterson. It was the is fight grimly. "One of the thee men who broke is fight wo had found him out: that is fight mont to the was known to Peterson. It was the solution to the tablet his is origingly, "what do the table to play in the nurs." "Haven't an idea what you're taik." The other two escaped—how, in the out one of them was how to be intered. They have that and me mont of the play in the nurs. The point was how the first we card to play in the nurs. The other two escaped—how, in the out one of them was the to play in the nurs. The other two escaped—how, in the out one of them was the to play in the nurs." "It affect matters."

ing about, Captain Drummond," said

the hunchback, shifting uneasily in

his chair. For all trace of affability

had vanished from the face of the man opposite him, to be replaced by

an expression which made Mr. At-

kinson pass his tongue once or twice

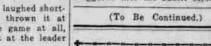
"I haven't an idea what you're talk-

while standing at the top of the stairs down which he had just de-scended and outlinod against a win-It's prevalent amongst his pals as

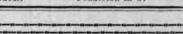
Snooks. You threw it at the leader of the Black Gang."

"Can't we put our cards on the table?" returned the other with studied moderation, "I know that you are that leader, you know that though it is possible that no one else would believe it. I was wrong to threaten you-I should have known better; I apologize. But if I may say so I have had my punishment. Now as man to man-can we come to terms?"

erably certain that you either have them in your possession, or that you know where they are. Now, those diamonds were not mine-did you speak? No. Well-to resume. The diamonds were not mine; they had been deposited in the desk in my office unknown to me. Then this fool-whom you foolishly think was myself-threw the bomb into the office to kill you. I admit it; he told me all about it. He did not kill you, for Close on the heels of the first which fact, if I may say so, I am very hardy robin comes milady clad for glad. You're a sportsman, and you've Spring. Thigh, gorgeous colors, fought like a sportsman-but our feature the charming modes she fight, Captain Drummond, has been will wear during the warmer days. over other matters. The diamonds will wear during the warmer days. This frock is of pastel tinted chiff-on printed in the new floral design, with tie, that the fashionable girl they are the sole wealth saved by a Russian nobleman from the Rolshey. they are the sole wealth saved by a Russian nobleman from the Bolshey-



"I am waiting," said Hugh briefly, "Kindly be as concise as possible." "Those diamonds, Captain Drum-mond. Rightly or wrongly, I feel tol-



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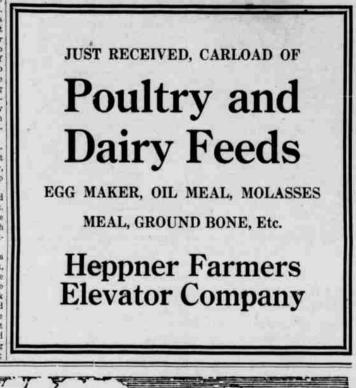
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HOSKINS WORKS IN MORROW.

on his knee that you're right," con-"Well, granted you're right," con-ceded Darrell grudgingly, "what do it affect matters. "An elusive person, I believe," he

"I don't know, Peter. I've got to think this out."

"Surely with your marvelous poconvinced.

convinced. "Absolutely, old man," answered Drummond gravely. "The clergyman over there is Carl Peterson, late of the Elms, Godalming. And the game I y. "Surely with your marvelous po-ice system ..." "And yet, Mr. Longmoor," said Hugh gravely, "even though lately I have been reinforcing that system -literally helping them myself-they are still completely in the dark has begun again."

Darrell gave a short laugh as he noted the gleam in his leader's eyes. "I'm thinking," he remarked sober-"I'm thinking," he remarked sober-

ly, "that this time the game is going to make us all go out." "So much the better," grinned Hugh. "We'll add him to our collec-tion, Peter, and then we'll present to have the pleasure of her acquaint-ance some other day. And now if bunch to the zoo. And. us when Phyllis arrives, and prattle theology to an appreciative audience. My correspondence at the moment Incidentally it will appeal to be whole neidentally it will appeal to his destitute Austrians is very volum-sense of humor; there's no difficulty inous. A thousand thanks for the about recognizing us. Look out, he's most enjoyable meal." He bowed with a courteous smile, coming over.'

turned as the clergyman and threaded his way through the They crowded restaurant toward the door. crossed toward them.

"Jolly old tum-tum beginning to shout for nourishment," said Hugh with an affable smile as he joined them. "My wife should be here at "Jolly old tum-tum beginning to

with an affable smile as he joined them. "My wife should be here at any moment now. Mr.-er-" "Longmoor is my name," said the beam in the same in the same is another cigarette. "He knows I'm the another cigarette. "He knows I'm the samtly. The same is another cigarette is another is ano very charming of you to take such compassion on a lonely old man."

"Staying here all by yourself!" and he doesn't know it i know it. I wonder how long it will be before "No; my daughter is with me. The dear child has been my constant com-panion ever since my beloved wife's

panion ever since my beloved where death some years ago. We have just returned from a visit to the famine-stricken area," replied the clergy-man, "Most interesting-but most terribly sad. You know-I don't think I caught your name." In Which Count Zadowa is Intro-duced to "Alice in Wonderland."

'Drummond, Captain Drummond," was not proposing to turn up, and lice." nothing was to be gained by remain- For "Drummond, Captain Drummond," answered Hugh, mechanically. "And this is Mr. Darrell. I think I have had the pleasure of making your daughter's acquaintance already. She was manufacturing woolen garments for the Austriana down here, and I retrieved an elusive ball of wool for her." "That is just my daughter all over, Captain Drummond," beamed the Rev-erend Theodosius. "Never wasting be time alreave me, sir," said a voice at her time alreave me, sir," said a voice at they sheave doing something for the alreave the site of the site action of the site of the site they sheave doing something for the site of the site captain Drummond," beamed the Rev-erend Theodosius. "Never wasting

erend Theodosius. "Never wasting her time, always doing something for

her time, always doing something for the good of humanity." Is to be re-gretted that Hugh was not worrying his head over the good of humanity. Inconceivable though it was, judged

don't know. But one of them was recognized by the clerk downstairs." "I gathered that was the story," said Hugh. "I don't anticipate that it should

CHAPTER IX

"You're perfectly certain, Hugh?" be hard to discover him, Captain "He was recognized as the leader said Peter, who was still far from Drummond," said the clergyman mild- of the Black Gang-an unknown person. But today-at the Ritz, Captain Drummond-my celrk, who had

brought me a message, recognized him again, without his disguise. No longover his lips that had suddenly gone dry. "Haven't you, you rat?"

er an unknown man, you understand Drummond quietly. "Then I'll tell you. Just for the next five minutes Drummond smiled, and selected a

we're going to pretend that these two statements which the police-stupid cigarette from his case. "Very pretty," he answered, "but a trifle crude. As I understand you, fellows-won't believe are true. We're going to pretend-only pretend, mind I gather that your shrewd and inyou-that I am the leader of the Black Gang; and we're going to pretelligent clerk states that the leader of the Black Gang broke into your tend that you are the man who flung the bomb last night. Just for five office last night in oder to indulge in the doubtful pastime of throwing minutes only, then we go back to reality and unbelieving policomen." And if during the following five bombs about the premises. He fur-ther states that I am the humorist in question. Allowing for the mo-ment that your clerk is same, what do you propose to do about it?" "In certain eventualities, Captain minutes strange sounds were by Denny in the room below, he was far too accustomed to the sounds of

breaking furniture to worry. It was-Drummond, I propose to send an an-onymous letter to Scotland Yard. Surn't until the hunchback pulled a knife that Drummond warmed to his pulled prised though they would be to get it, work, but from that moment he lost his temper. And because the hunchit might help them to clear up the "Deuced interesting position of af-fairs, Peter," he remarked lighting another eigarette. "He knows I'm the leader of our bunch, and doesn't know I know it; I know he's Peterson, and he doesn't know I know it. I he nonreturn to back was a hunchback-though en-dowed withal by Nature with singular strength-it jarred on Drummond to fight him as if he had been a normal man. So he flogged him with a rhinoceros-hide whip till his arm ached, and then he flung him into a chair, gasping, cursing and scarcely

human.

"You shouldn't be so realistic in in the desk which was wrecked by the bomb." your stories, Snooks: I shall call you Snooks," he remarked affably, though his eyes were still merciless as he

"Dear, dear," said Hugh. "Am I supposed to have them in my posses-sion?" looked at the writhing figure. "And I feel quite sure that that is what

duced to "Alice in Wonderland." A QUARTER of an hour later the two young men stepped into Piccadilly. Evidently Phyllis afraid that letter will go to the pothe leader of the Black Gang would have done if he had met the peculiar humorist who threw that bomb last night. Bad habit-throwing bombs.

With a final curse the hunchback staggered to his feet, and his face was diabolical in its fury. "You shall pay for that, Captain

Drummond, stroke by stroke, and lash by lash," he said in a shaking voice

Drummond laughed shortly. "All the same, old patter," he re-marked. "Tell old Longmoor with my love-" He pausod and grinned. The function of the second sec "No, on second thoughts I think I'll

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