

Through the Wall

By CLEVELAND MOFFETT

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"Yes, here they are, walls and all," admitted Tignol admiringly. "I'm an old fool, but—but—"

"Well?"
"Tell me why Martinez did it?"
Coqueni's face darkened. "Ah, that's the question. We'll know that when we talk to the woman. Somebody helped him or the chips would still be there; somebody held back these hangings while he worked the auger, and somebody carried the auger away."

Tignol pondered. "Hah! I see! The man in No. 7, the murderer, lifted that picture from its nail before shooting and then put it back on the nail after shooting?"

"Yes, yes," agreed M. Paul.
"Then this murderer must have known that the billiard player was going to bore these holes," went on Tignol half to himself. "He must have been waiting in No. 7; he must have stood there with his pistol ready while the holes were coming through; he must have let Martinez finish one hole and then bore the other; he must have kept No. 7 dark so they couldn't see him!"

"A good point, that," approved Coqueni, paying attention. "He certainly kept No. 7 dark."
"And he probably looked into No. 6 through the first hole while Martinez was boring the second. I suppose you can tell which of the two holes was bored first?" chuckled Tignol.

M. Paul started, and "I see—that's it! He bored this hole first; it's the right hand one when you're in this room, the left hand one when you're in No. 7. As you say, the murderer looked through the first hole while he waited for the second to be bored; so, naturally, he fired through the hole where his eye was. That was his first great mistake."

"What difference does it make which hole the man fired through?"

"Just this—by firing through the left hand hole he has given us precious evidence against him. Come back into the other room and I'll show you." And when they had returned to No. 7 he continued: "Take the pistol, pretend you are the murderer. You're been waiting your moment while the auger grinds through from the other side. The first hole is finished. You see the point of the auger as it comes through the second. You grip your pistol and look through the left hand hole; you see the woman holding back the curtains; you see Martinez show out the auger from the right hand hole and lay it down. Now he leans forward, pressing his face to the completed eye holes; you see the whites of his eyes not three inches away. Quick! Pistol up! Ready to fire; No, no; through the left hand hole where he fired."

"Sacre matin!" muttered Tignol. "It's awkward aiming through this left hand hole, because it's too near the sideboard. I can't get my eye there to sight along the pistol barrel."

"You mean your right eye?"
"Of course."
"Could you get your left eye there?"

"Yes, but if I aimed with my left eye I'd have to fire with my right hand, and I couldn't hit a cow that way."

Coqueni looked at Tignol steadily. "You could if you were a left handed man."

"You mean to say?"—The other stared.

"We've got to look for a left handed murderer?"

It was nearly 4 o'clock when Coqueni left the Ansonia and started up the Champs Elysees, breathing deep of the early morning air. The night was still dark, although day was breaking in the east. And what a night it had been! After all, what had he acted on? A girl's dream and an odd coincidence. Was that enough? Was that enough to make a man alter his whole life and face extraordinary danger? Was it enough?

Coqueni was just glancing about for a cab to the Turkish bath place—in fact, he was signalling one that he saw jogging up the Avenue de la Grande Armee—when he became aware that a gentleman was approaching him. Turning quickly, he saw a man of medium height with a dark beard fringed with gray, wearing a loose black cape overcoat and a silk hat. The stranger saluted politely and said with a slight foreign accent: "How do you do, M. Louis? I have been expecting you."

The words were simple enough, yet they contained a double surprise for Coqueni. He was at a loss to understand how he could have been expected here, where he had come by the merest accident, and certainly this was the first time in twenty years that any one, except his mother, had addressed him as Louis. He had been christened Louis Paul.

"How do you know that my name is Louis?"

"I know a great deal about you," answered the other, and then, with significant emphasis, "I know that you are interested in dreams."

Coqueni instinctively felt that something momentous was preparing.

"Rather clever, you getting on that and tonight," remarked the other.

"Ah, you know about that?"

"Yes, and about the Rio de Janeiro affair. We want you to reconsider your decision."

"Who, pray, are 'we'?"
"Certain persons interested in this Ansonia affair."
"Persons who know about the crime?"
"Possibly."
"H'm! Do these persons know what covered the holes in No. 7?"
"A Japanese print."
"And in No. 6?"
"Some fellow hangings."
"Ah!" exclaimed Coqueni in surprise. "Do they know why Martinez bored these holes?"
"To please the woman," was the prompt reply.

"Did she want Martinez killed?"
"No."
"Then why did she want the holes bored?"
"She wanted to see into No. 7."
It was extraordinary.

"What do you want with me?"
"The persons I represent."
"Say the person you represent," interrupted Coqueni. "A criminal of this type acts alone."
"As you like," answered the other carelessly. "Then the person I represent wishes you to withdraw from this case."

The message was preposterous.
"Naturally," retorted Coqueni. "Tell your friend or employer that I am only mildly interested in his wishes."
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NEW HIGH SCHOOL PLAN OF ASHLAND

City Board of Education Is Soon to Take Up Matter—Have Trouble in Finding Suitable Site.

ASHLAND, April 20.—It is probable that the city board of education will soon take up in earnest the project for a new high school building for Ashland. The matter came before the board officially for the first time two months ago, when a motion prevailed to proceed with preliminaries in the way of plans, site, etc., but no definite action of any kind has been taken as yet. An active investigation of suitable and available sites for the structure, which it is generally agreed shall be the finest school building in the city and a credit in every respect to the community, will probably be begun at an early date. The general nature and extent of the building will be easily agreed upon, it is plain, in comparison with the selection of the site. The board has not yet called for a formal submission of propositions to furnish the grounds for the new building, but many sites have been suggested and in some instances it is said that options have been secured so that certain sites can be formally offered to the board.

There is a strong demand that ample grounds be one of the first requisites for the site finally chosen, and five or ten acres are suggested as "ample." But great difficulty in finding such a site in anything like a central location is so apparent at once that it is hardly considered feasible, however desirable it may be.

NOTICE.

All members of the M. M. M. club are requested to be present at the residence of Mrs. William Bates Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m., April 20. Important business. 26 M. L. MURPHY, Secretary.

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One hundred and sixty acres of free red soil, 10 to 30 feet depth; two wells, about 25 acres cleared; a very gradual south hill slope; one-half mile from postoffice, less than one-fourth mile from school and seven and one-half miles southwest of Jacksonville. Only \$30 per acre. Call on or address
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\$150 AN ACRE—270 acres, foothill land, about 6 miles from Medford; there are about 85 acres on this place now planted to fruit, which includes about 26 acres in bearing. The bearing varieties are Newtown and Spitzbergen apples and Comice pears. There are 25 acres of Newtowns in their second year with peach fillers and about 6 acres of Newtowns just planted; also 20 acres of Jonathans and 10 acres of Bartlett and Anjou pears just planted. About 200 acres of first-class fruit land on the place. There are many springs on the place and considerable water could be developed for irrigation; two houses, good barn and other buildings. Would subdivide nicely. Easy terms.

\$2500—Sixty acres, 6 miles from Medford, about 15 acres cleared and partly planted; small buildings.

\$250 AN ACRE—70 acres, about 4 miles from Medford, free soil; 25 acres planted to Newtown and Spitzbergen apples, mostly 3 years old; in addition, about 25 acres under cultivation, balance easily cleared; good new 6-room plastered house, new barn; also set of old buildings. Could be subdivided into two or three tracts nicely. easy terms.

\$5500—Six miles from Medford, good new buildings, about 8 acres planted to Newtowns, Spitzbergs and pears, 1 and 2 years old; about 7 acres additional cleared, balance not hard clearing; good team, wagon and machinery gone with the place. This is a 40-acre tract.

\$15,000—A first-class fruit and alfalfa ranch, 185 acres, 5 1/2 miles from railway station, practically all bottom land, 140 acres now under cultivation, water right with place; fair house, two barns, schoolhouse on the place, for \$15,000, which is only \$81 an acre; \$6000 cash will handle, and easy terms can be had on the balance; this is a fine chance to get a first-class tract of low-priced land for development purposes. We don't think this will last long, and if you are interested, come in and see us about it.

\$12,525—Eleven acres in Comice pears, 10 years old; 9 acres in Bartlett and Anjou pears, 1 to 3 years old; close in; good soil; terms.

\$12,000—Eleven acres in Comice and Bose pears, 14 years old; these trees are in full bearing and will pay a good income on the price asked.

\$15,000—Twenty acres, fine new modern bungalow, buildings easily worth \$4000; about 13 acres of apples in full bearing; trees are 16 years old; balance planted to apples 2 years old; good soil; slightly location; close to market; an assured income from the beginning; a fine home.

\$150 to \$200 PER ACRE—Stewart acre tracts; 2 miles from Medford; tracts are from 10 to 25 acres in size; fine building spots on all; can all be irrigated; cheapest tracts in Medford neighborhood; easy terms.

\$300 PER ACRE—Finest 5 and 10-acre orchard and garden tracts in the valley; easy terms.

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