

The Wrong Murderer

By HUGH CLEVELY

SYNOPSIS: Billy Ross, thinking he was doing, confessed to his best friend Terence Mahony that he was a member of a dope and kidnapping gang headed by the generally respected Ambrose Lawson. Ross added that the gang proposed to kidnap Billy Little, film star, at the Cinema Ball. Terence has gone to the ball in Ross' disguise. Also has been duly kidnapped and drugged. Now Terence is holding the kidnappers, dressed as monks, at bay with his revolver. One of the monks has tried to distract Terence's attention by pointing at something behind the determined young man with the revolver.

Chapter Six HOME AGAIN

ALMOST in the same movement the man dropped sideways to the ground and shot up one foot in a lightning kick at Mahony's pistol arm.

"At him! All of you!" he shouted. The trick did not work. Mahony had seen it before. He did not look back over his shoulder. He moved his right arm very slightly, so that that kick missed it, and stepped swiftly sideways, avoiding a haphazard blow from another of the monks. Then he leaned forward slightly from the waist and brought the barrel of his pistol crashing down on his second opponent's head. The man dropped to the ground and lay still.

"That's what you get for think-

ing," observed Mahony. "Another move from any of you and I shall shoot."

His voice was curt and business-like. No one doubted that he meant exactly what he said; no one else moved. Mahony bent forward, seized the brown monk by the collar, and kicked him up to his feet.

"Turn round. Stand with your backs to me," he ordered sharply. They obeyed.

"Now walk away from me. If any man tries to turn or takes his hands down before he reaches the end of the yard, I shall drop him," he said.

They walked away from him. When they were about twenty paces from the car, Mahony sprang into the driving seat, pressed the self-starter, and let in the clutch. He reversed the car neatly out of the yard into the roadway, engaged the first forward speed, and was off.

For about five minutes he drove aimlessly away from the yard, not minding much where he went. Then he stopped the car and climbed into the back to look at Elsa. Her eyes were still closed, but her breathing was even and her pulse was regular. Home was the place for her, he decided. After a night's sleep she would probably be all right.

He got back into the driving seat and headed the car in the direction of the Littles' house in Chelsea.



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THE Littles' house in Chelsea was quite a nice little place. It was quaint. It photographed well. The windows were leaded and the outside wall was covered with ivy. Women seeing it for the first time exclaimed: "What a dear little house!" For those reasons the rent was very high.

There was, however, no room in it for servants to sleep in, and the cook and parlor-maid the Littles employed had rooms out. Therefore when the telephone rang shortly after midnight, Mr. Little had to get up and answer it himself.

The caller was Lawson, and his voice sounded very worried.

"Is Elsa there?" he asked.

"Elsa?"

Mr. Little was astonished.

"No, of course not. She's at the Albert Hall, isn't she?"

"No, apparently she isn't, an-

have been occurring lately..."

"Kidnapping..."

MR. LITTLE'S tone was utterly horror-stricken. His large eyes, always rather prominent, bulged quite alarmingly.

"But... you can't mean... you don't suggest that my niece has been kidnapped!"

A look of slightly amused contempt came into Lawson's eyes. Evidently this stupid old sahib was under the impression that his own relatives ought, by some mysterious law of Nature, to be immune from the attentions of low-caste people like kidnappers.

"I don't know what has happened," he said. "That's why I came along—to consult you about the advisability of calling in the police. Whether Elsa's been kidnapped or not, I think she ought to be found at once."

"But this... this is outrageous," exclaimed Mr. Little. "Of course we must ring up the police. What a fool I was not to listen to young Ross' warning."

"Ross' warning!" echoed Lawson in a startled tone. "What do you mean?"

"Why, he warned me that some body was planning to kidnap Elsa—somebody I trusted implicitly, an answer Mr. Little. "He wouldn't tell me who it was. Naturally I didn't believe him. I shall ring up the police at once."

He went to the telephone and raised the receiver. Lawson stood still, watching him, biting his lip slightly. So Ross had been blabbing, had he. Luckily he hadn't told Little very much. But had he told Mahony anything?

In answer to Mr. Little's call, he was told that a policeman would be sent to the house right away. As he was replacing the receiver the front door bell rang.

The two men looked at one another. The same thought was in both their minds: who could this be. Lawson licked his lips, which suddenly felt dry.

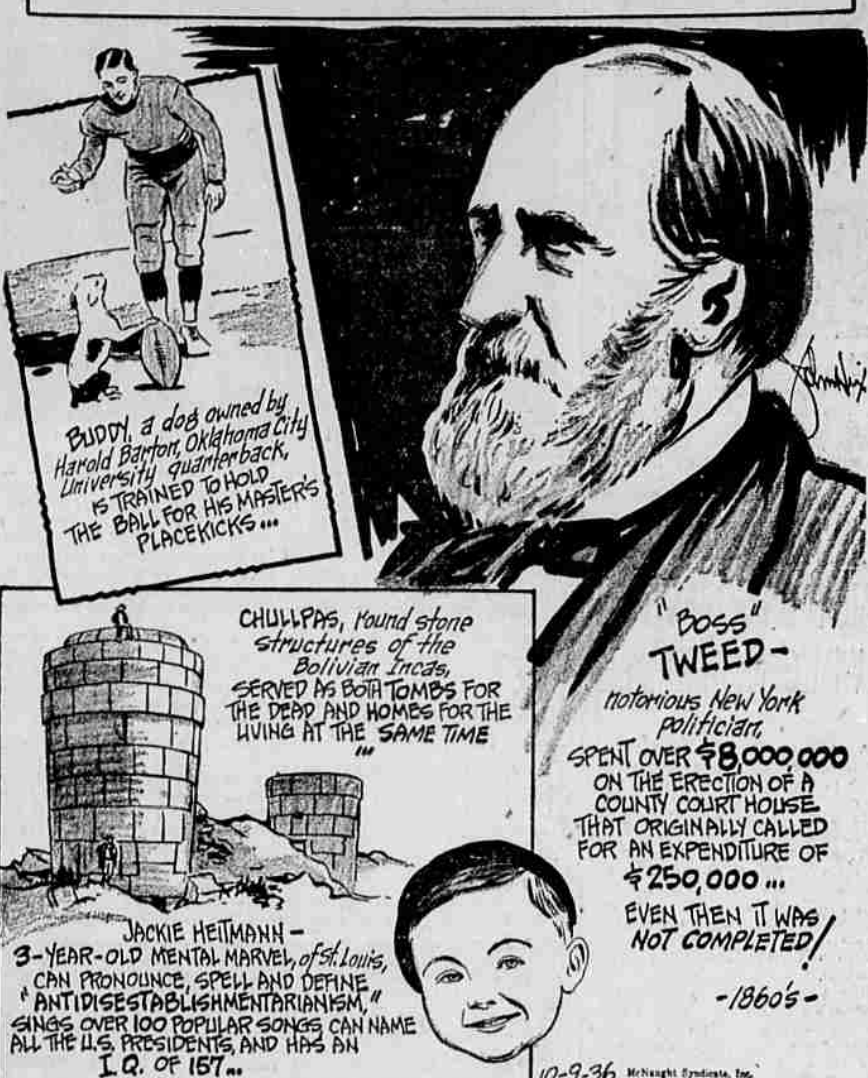
"I should answer it," he said. "Perhaps it's Elsa."

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Monday the Little's charming house is defiled by murder.

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS—By JOHN HIX

For further proof address the author, inclosing a stamped envelope for reply. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



Buddy, a dog owned by Harold Barton, Oklahoma City University quarterback, is trained to hold the ball for his master's placekicks...

Chullpas, round stone structures of the Bolivian Incas, served as both tombs for the dead and homes for the living at the same time.

Jackie Heilmann—3-year-old mental marvel of St. Louis, can pronounce, spell and define "ANTIDISEMPATHETICISM." SINGS OVER 100 POPULAR SONGS CAN NAME ALL THE U.S. PRESIDENTS, AND HAS AN I.Q. OF 157.

"Boss" Tweed—Notorious New York politician, SPENT OVER \$8,000,000 ON THE ERECTION OF A COUNTY COURT HOUSE THAT ORIGINALLY CALLED FOR AN EXPENDITURE OF \$250,000... EVEN THEN IT WAS NOT COMPLETED! -1860's-

Chairmaker by trade, William Marcy Tweed deserted his occupation in favor of politics when he was elected an alderman of the New York city council in 1852.

Advancing with rapid strides he became successively a United States congressman, chairman of the New York board of supervisors, school commissioner and state senator.

Tweed's appointment as deputy street commissioner in 1861 marked the birth of the famous Tammany Ring's real power. Actually heading the department, behind his title of deputy, he raised the city payroll enormously, giving all high-salaried jobs to his political allies and discharging all employees who refused to co-operate in a systematic looting of the city's treasury.

"Boss" Tweed's greatest single theft of funds proved to be his undoing. With original plans calling for an expenditure of \$250,000 to be used in building a county courthouse, more than 32 times that amount was reported as having been spent, leaving the structure still uncompleted!

A secret account of the misappropriation of money involved in this deal was kept in the auditor's office. Making a copy of it, one of the of-



WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT THE PERFECT GUM STEADIES THE NERVES

ice's clerks turned it over to the city's district attorney. Tweed was brought to trial on the evidence in 1873 and sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment, coupled with a heavy fine.

Winning a reversal of sentence in 1875 he was imprisoned pending trial on several civil suits, with his bail set at the huge sum of \$3,000,000. Tweed escaped and fled to Spain in the same year but was captured and brought back to New York on a warship. Again committed to Ludlow street jail, he died there in 1897.

Authorities have credited him with having engineered the theft of \$200,000,000 during his reign as New York's political boss!

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Revenge... "From the Grave!"



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Doctor's Orders



THE NEBBS—The Green-Eyed Monster



APPLE MARKET BEST IN YEARS PROMISED

PORTLAND, Oct. 9.—(AP)—One of the most promising apple markets over a long period of years appears in prospect this season for Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the Oregon Journal said today.

An improved export condition and general increased demand has taken up most of the apple output, including most of the crops of independent orchards of the Island Empire and Willamette valley, the newspaper said.

Most of Hood River's 1936 crop was declared already under contract, chiefly to export distributors. Even the C grades, usually the center of controversy, are sold.

STATISTICS INDICATE ROOSEVELT REELECTION

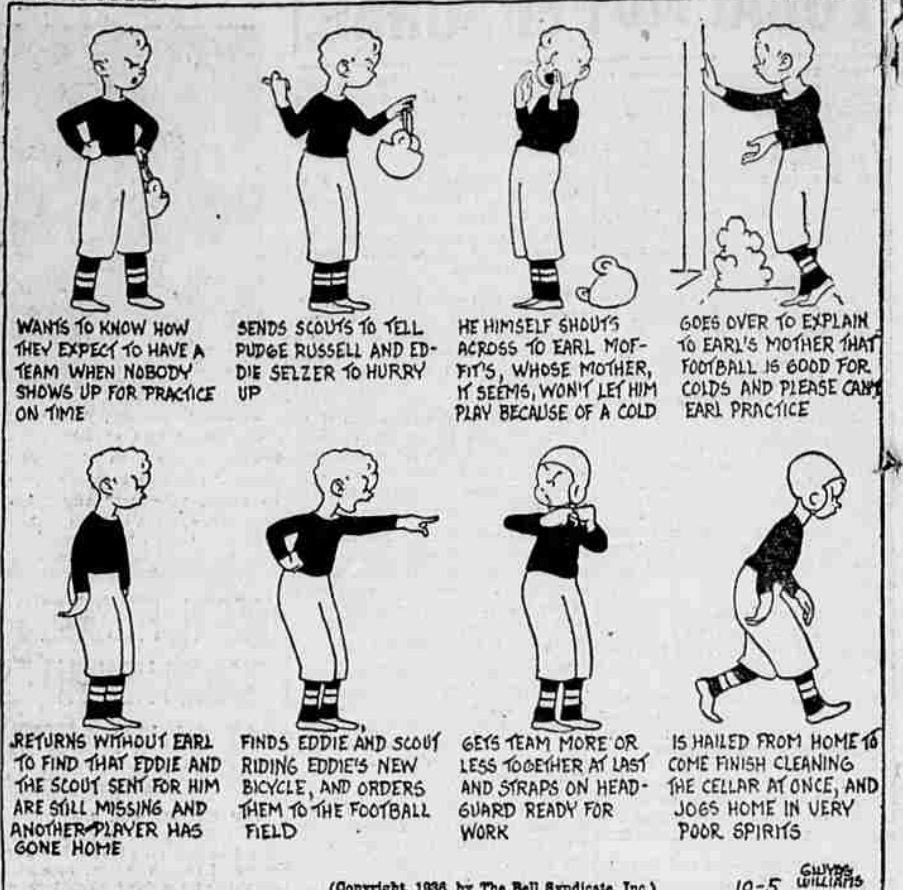
WELLESLEY, Mass., Oct. 9.—(AP) Creighton J. Hill, an editor of Babson's reports, asserted today: "Statistics indicate that Roosevelt will be re-elected."

Hill told the 23rd annual national business conference under the auspices of the Babson Statistical Institute: "That only a spectacular burst of speed on the part of Republicans can prevent a Roosevelt victory. This aspect is of course possible. It is not probable."

Last Visitor Dies
ISTANBUL, Turkey, Oct. 9.—(AP) Tewfik Pasha, 95, last grand sultan of the Ottoman empire, died today.

PRACTICE

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



S'MATTER POP—

By C. M. PAYNE

