

SERIAL STORY

NEW YORK JUNGLE

BY WRAY WADE SEVERN

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YESTERDAY, Barker, the chauffeur, returns, reports seeing a green sedan. He is unable to identify it, or the man in it. He surprises Sidney by announcing he carries a gun. Mrs. Langdon insists that he be armed.

NEW EVIDENCE

CHAPTER IX

WHEN the police finally arrived, Sidney met them alone. Pat had asked it, and the others had readily consented. As the family lawyer, it had seemed logical to allow him to do the talking.

There were two officers: Sergeant O'Connor, tall and alert, and his superior, Captain Plowman of the state police. Plowman's broad, impressive face was devoid of personal expression. Sidney was relieved when the officers reported a green sedan had passed them, and that a fallen tree had forced them to detour. He did not want to see Barker needlessly involved.

Quickly, Braitwood related the facts as he knew them. He told of Adam's return from Africa on a ship, other than that he had called her sailing on; his surprise marriage; the kinship of the guests to the murdered man. He did not dwell on Maria's broken love affair, nor did he stress the fact that Gundrum had been engaged to Pat. Sidney told his story as he imagined each one of them would have told it.

Coming to tonight, the lawyer reviewed the dinner and Adam's pleasure in his new trophies. While they were having coffee in the jungle, they had found themselves locked in; Hugh had shot the lock; the man had gone in search of the supposed robber.

Then, Sidney went on, a scream had brought them back to the jungle. They had found Adam dead and Maria unconscious at his feet.

He touched briefly Nella's neurosis concerning fire and his hunt with Hugh for the blaze. He also recalled Pat's search for pearls, and his own regret that they all had been unable to remain together, despite their agreement.

"Then the chauffeur was the only member of the household who could have locked the rest of you in?" Plowman asked.

"Yes, but he had driven to the village."

"Say he did return," Plowman persisted. "Could he have escaped through the open door in the dark, while you were looking for matches?"

HOW quickly Gundrum's theory had turned up! In this case a suspect was attached to it and

Barker, in Sidney's opinion, was innocent. He decided to tell the truth.

"Possible but not probable," Captain Plowman said. "I didn't move from the door myself, and though it was dark, I'm sure I should have heard anyone leave."

"Where's the car the chauffeur used?" Plowman demanded.

"I imagine it must be in the garage at the end of the rear garden."

"O'Connor," the captain ordered, "check that car."

"Now where's the dead man?"

As they passed into the darkness of the lower hall, Plowman kept a powerful flashlight playing on the walls and floor in front of them.

"You heard footsteps out here?" he asked.

"I didn't hear them myself, but Miss Langdon did. Her senses are abnormally keen. Mr. Gundrum thought he heard someone, too."

Before the storeroom Plowman stopped. "You didn't mention a dog."

"A dog? There was no dog here," Sidney was astonished. "There has been a small dog here for a few moments where it stood obediently, and then picked up again. If you look you will see where it stood. Whoever held it had dry feet, but the dog did not." The light focused on the floor.

There were prints of wet paws. "They may have been made some time ago," the lawyer suggested. "Langdon has never allowed a dog near his collection. They are apt to attack the animals."

Plowman ran his hand over the fire-grained carpet of the door.

"This door has been here a long time. Key must be large, judging from the type of lock."

"Truly, I can't recall ever seeing a key," Sidney told him.

"Lock has been opened recently; key would have turned without a click," the captain of the state troopers went on as if talking to himself.

FOR several minutes Plowman studied the body of Adam Langdon, the position, the hole in his shirt front, the block on which he had stood; then he turned his attention to the broken window.

"With this downpour it will be impossible to find a footprint outside, even if someone had shot from the window," Sidney suggested.

"He's right, Captain," Sergeant O'Connor hurried into the jungle, his raincoat dripping. "I've just given the place the once-over. I saw that broken window and investigated. There's been a vine, next to the house, kicked away recently."

Plowman nodded. "What did you get on the car?"

"Mileage shows eight and a quarter miles, about the distance to the village and back, sir. The color of the mud on the tires, some oil and tar check with the condition of the roads. I found three dark dog hairs on the seat beside the chauffeur and kept

was killed with a Lilliput, judging from the size of the bore. Make a search for it, O'Connor, and fix his heel marks on the block so that we can tell how far he swung after being shot."

"I've found the gun already, Captain," O'Connor said. "It's a little bit of a gat. It just fitted into the upturned mitt of that ugly brute of a monkey next the door."

(To Be Continued)



MEDIATOR—Dr. H. A. Mills, professor emeritus of economics at Chicago, was named permanent umpire on labor differences between General Motors and United Auto Workers.

According to statistics, the railroads of the United States now own or operate more automobile trucks than locomotives. In 1914 the average yield of gasoline from crude oil was about 18 per cent; today the yield is 70 to 75 per cent.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



ANSWER: A horse, for on the bottom of each foot he has a triangular, elastic, horny pad, which is called a frog.

NOTED WOMAN

HORIZONTAL

- 1, 5, 9 Religious leader.
- 13 Flyer.
- 15 Tasting better.
- 17 Pale brown.
- 18 To have.
- 20 Land measure.
- 21 Inclination.
- 22 Ocean.
- 23 Small calorie.
- 25 To supervise.
- 28 To avouch.
- 32 Worshiper.
- 36 Timber tree.
- 37 Form of "be."
- 38 Back of neck.
- 40 Full of veins.
- 41 Pronoun.
- 43 Item.
- 47 Displays.
- 51 Heraldic term.
- 52 Floor block.
- 53 To leer.
- 54 Crane spar.
- 58 Pondies.
- 60 She was the — of Christian Science.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

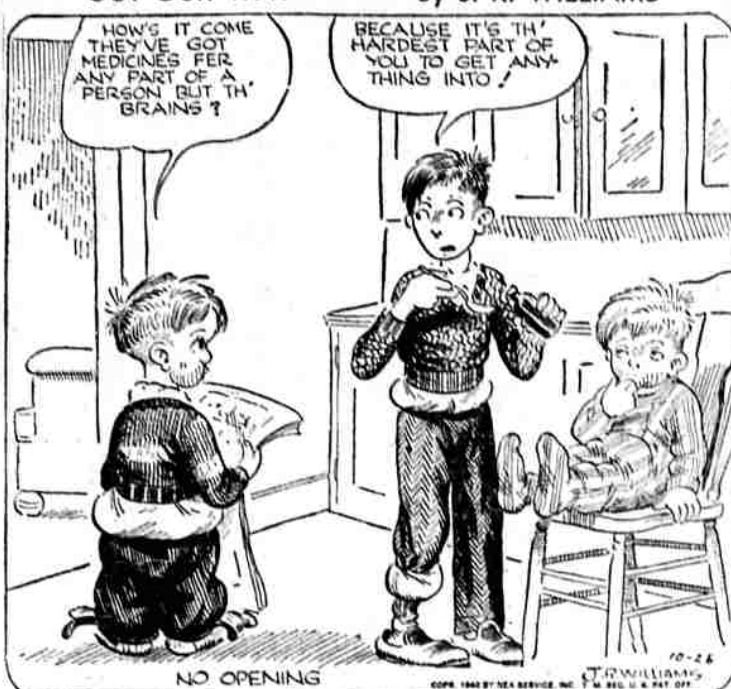
VERTICAL

- 1 Mother.
- 2 To affirm.
- 3 Oriental food.
- 4 Sea tale.
- 5 Exclamation.
- 6 Ascended.
- 7 Heating vessels.
- 8 Sun god.
- 9 To engrave.
- 10 Dismal.
- 11 Wild animal.
- 12 Year (abbr.).
- 14 Type of English architecture.
- 16 Satiated.
- 18 Existed.
- 19 She — followers to heal.
- 24 Those who sacrifice life for a belief.
- 26 Veteran.
- 27 Each (abbr.).
- 29 Health resort.
- 30 To drink slowly.
- 31 Rubber tree.
- 33 To be indebted.
- 34 Portuguese coin.
- 35 Sea eagle.
- 39 Boat.
- 40 Huge.
- 42 To evade.
- 44 Hence.
- 45 Balsam.
- 46 Word in a prayer.
- 48 Wrestler's throw.
- 49 Olive shrub.
- 50 Moistens.
- 53 Preposition.
- 55 Measure of area.
- 56 Idant.
- 57 Musical note.
- 59 Southeast (abbr.).



OUT OUR WAY

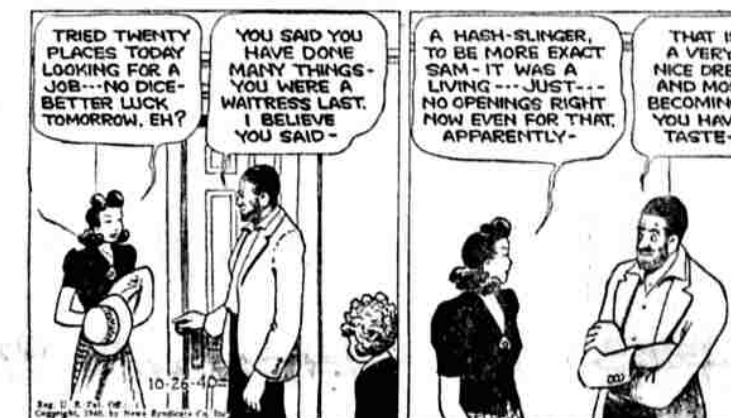
By J. R. WILLIAMS



RED RYDER



LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



WASH TUBBS



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



ALLEY OOP



OUR BOARDING HOUSE

With MAJOR HOOPLE



BY FRED HARMAN



BY HAROLD GRAY



BY CRANE



BY BLOSSER



BY MARTIN



BY V. T. HAMLIN

