

UNLOCKING ADVENTURE

By Charles Courtney

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Charles Courtney is the world's highest paid legal Jimmie Valentine. This is the true story of his many adventures unlocking safes around the world and under the sea.

CHAPTER XXIV

A JOB for former King Alfonso of Spain took me to Europe again in the spring of 1937. The king, it seemed, left Madrid in such a hurry that he gathered what chests and safes he could find in the palace, but there was no time to look for the keys or records of combinations. At that, he did well, for he brought out 80 chests of jewels and silver. Forty-four could be opened, but the other 16 resisted all the locksmiths who tried, and so Alfonso asked me to come to Biarritz.

I had a special personal reason for wanting to make this trip, because I believed that at last I might be able to accomplish something that had been in the back of my mind for years. Several times in Vienna I had seen an exhibition of the Dillinger lock collection.

Count Dillinger was the outstanding collector of ancient locks. As early as 1870, before the Franco-Prussian War, he had such a reputation that the Emperor Franz Joseph commissioned him to bring together in Vienna the most complete historical lock and key collection that could be gathered. For 10 years the count traveled over Europe, Asia and Africa. In 1880, the emperor added his personal collection of medieval locks, and two years later Baron Rothschild of Vienna presented to the count the Rothschild family collection of Roman keys and bolts.

Before his death, at the age of 70, Count Dillinger had attracted most of the famous locks in Europe to his collection. He traveled continually, hunting new locks and keys, lecturing and exhibiting his collection at European universities. It was the proudest moment of my life when I bought this collection for America.

I WENT on to Biarritz. King Alfonso was a pleasant gentleman who spoke good English and was so full of high spirits, even in exile, that he acted like a prankish boy.

The king asked me how long it would take to open the chests. I estimated about five weeks and worked from early to late. His Majesty often watched me and was so talkative that I sometimes found it difficult to keep my mind on the job. When I finished in 16 days, he was so pleased that he gave me a beautiful Spanish chest and a jewel chest that had belonged to Queen Isabella. On the royal box were engravings of the queen, King Ferdinand, Christopher Columbus and other notables of the court.

When I returned to New York, I unpacked my own treasures in the shop and made arrangements to exhibit the Dillinger collection in Radio City. Mr. Carey was so fascinated with the locks and keys from Vienna that he wanted to buy them for his company. Knowing that the collection could have no safer or more appropriate home I sold it to Yale & Towne and was gratified to see how splendidly it was mounted and exhibited at the New York World's Fair.

In the meantime, my own collection, which was second only to the Dillinger, was practically crowding me into the street. These treasures needed to be housed permanently where they could be seen and studied by everyone who was interested in locks or historical metal design.

In this frame of mind, I was receptive to a suggestion from Mr. Charles Kendrick, the president of the Schlage Lock Company of San Francisco.

When Mr. Kendrick began to plan the Schlage exhibit for the San Francisco World's Fair, he wanted to show lock development from the beginning of time. Together we arranged a display of my locks to trace every step from the wooden pin tumbler on the woman's ritual bath in Jerusalem to the locks used on the Triborough Bridge and Subtreasury sliding doors.

After the close of the exposition, Mr. Kendrick offered to buy my entire collection and build a museum for it. This was another wish come true.

SINCE Pearl Harbor I have done an increasing amount of work

for the Army, the Navy, and the P. B. I. A new camp must be made ready, there is a rush job at the Navy yard, or a transport is fitted to go out. One Sunday recently my men and I worked at top speed to overhaul the locks on a transport. They gave me only three hours, for every civilian must be off before the troops come aboard. But it could not be done; I needed half an hour longer, so I stayed and worked while the boys in khaki marched aboard with their blanket rolls and campaign kits.

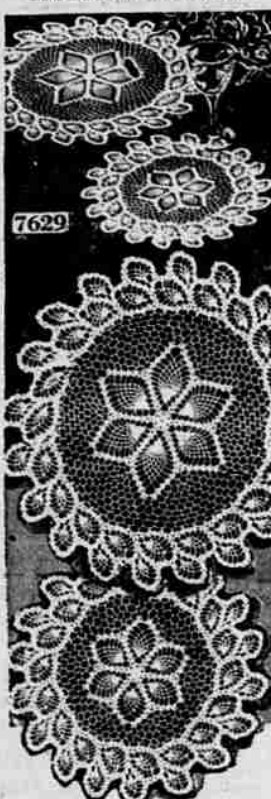
Youth, the chance to fight for the country that has given us everything we love—for a moment I was seized with a twinge of envy. But back in the shop, as I twisted around in my swivel chair and looked at the saw-toothed shark knife on the wall and the model airplane that I had made one winter from keys and parts of locks, I knew that middle age is the richest part of life.

Youth is brash and arrogant, as it should be, for unless we believe that we can do the impossible, we will never accomplish much. And it has skill; in a few months I can train a bright mechanical-minded boy to open safes with more dexterous fingers than mine. But when he meets a new problem, he must fall back on my experience, the knowledge that I have acquired in 35 years of studying locks.

THE END

(From the book of the same name written in collaboration with Thomas M. Johnson and published by Whittlesey House, New York City.)

EFFECTIVE DOILIES



A graceful pineapple edge swirls with style around these starchy, crocheted doilies. Rich in design, easy to do, they look like real lace when done. Let them do you proud as a luncheon set or as ornament and protection for a polished buffet-top. The size of the thread used makes them large or small. Pattern 7629 contains instructions for doilies; stitches; materials needed.

To obtain this pattern send 11 cents in coin to The Herald and News, Household Arts Dept., Klamath Falls. Do not send this picture, but keep it and the number for reference. Be sure to wrap coin securely, as a loose coin often slips out of the envelope. Requests for patterns should read, "Send pattern No. _____, followed by your name and address."

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FUNNY BUSINESS



"The new barber's not quite sure of himself yet!"

Hopkins House



After a three-year stay in the White House, the President's right-hand man, Harry Hopkins, is moving his family into this three-story brick residence in the Georgetown section.

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



NOT ALL DEER SHED THEIR ANTLERS ANNUALLY, AS DO AMERICAN SPECIES. THE AXIS DEER OF INDIA MAY KEEP A SET FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND THE PERE DAVIDS DEER OF CHINA GROWS TWO SETS ANNUALLY.

PILOT
FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF 25,000 FEET CAN SEE APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES IN EVERY DIRECTION.



ANSWER: Northern Ireland.

NEXT: Why type "O" blood donors are desirable

RACKET SPORT

HORIZONTAL		Answer to Previous Puzzle		24 Head cover	
1 Depicted sport	ROBERT	PEARY	25 Era	26 Wapiti	
6 It is played on	ENTREE	AMUSE	27 Spunk	28 Heavenly bodies	
10 Limb	P. GAS	NI A	31 Swine	32 Closer to	
13 Auricle	TON	ORTER	33 Saunter	34 Chum	
15 Say again	ORE	ONE	35 Her	36 Cornely	
17 Symbol for tantalum	OTTER	ROBERT	37 Pillar	38 Son of Se. (Bib.)	
18 Dried up	RE	AD	39 Hen product	40 Babylonian deity	
19 Ed. catcher	VASES	DEARV	41 Morindin dye	42 Unit	
20 Disclosed	IRE	AD	43 Even (contr.)	44 Parent	
22 Upon	ACE	WARMTH	45 Ruthenium	46 Mystic syllable	
23 Crust for sacramental wine	TEEL	ERA			
24 Dried wine	IDEAL	TARPON			
25 Conceals	COOKS	EMPIRE			
26 Symbol for silver					
27 Chicken					
28 Music note					
29 Canvas shelter					
30 Either					
31 Heaven					
32 Each (abbr.)					
33 Pint (abbr.)					
34 Mast					
35 Affectionate name for Paris					
36 Belonging to her					
37 Soul (Egypt)					
38 Kind of tea					
39 Before					
40 Kind of fruit (pl.)					
41 Ship's record					
42 Test					
43 Metallic substances					
44 Woody plant					
45 Hire					
46 Close to					

Out Our Way

By J. R. Williams



HOLD EVERYTHING!

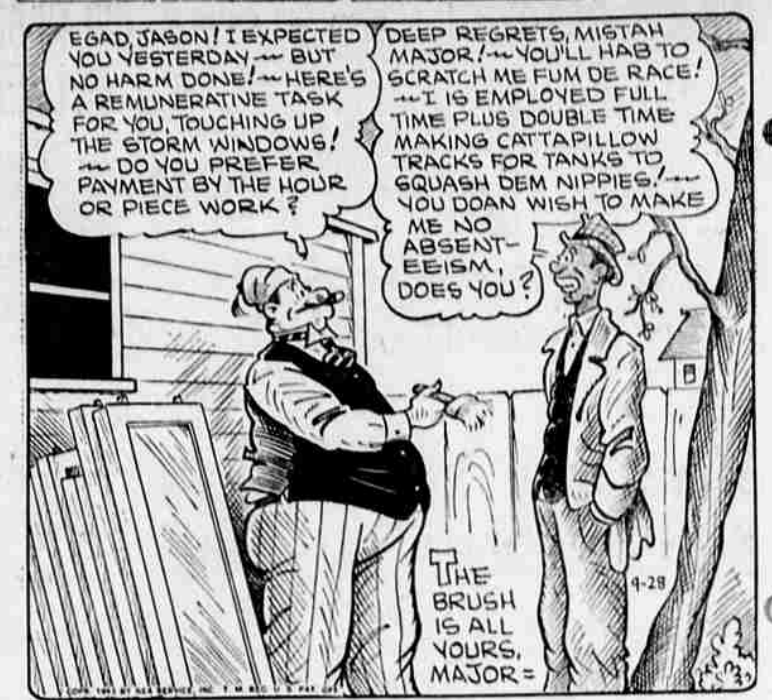


"I'd like to be transferred to submarine, sir—I walk in—sleep!"

Classified Ads Bring Results.

Our Boarding House

With Major Hoople



Red Ryder



Freckles and His Friends

By Blosser



Wash Tubbs

By Crane



Boots and Her Buddies

By V. T. Hamlin



Allep Oop

By Martin



Little Orphan Annie

By Harold Gray

