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Effective Sept. 6, 1921.
TO ST. THOMAS: ‡5:00, †*6:10, 7:05, *8:20, 9:20, *10:20, 11:20 a.m., *12:20, *1:20, 2:20, *3:20, 4:20, *5:20, 6:20, *7:20, 8:20, *9:20, 10:20, ‡11:20 p.m.
TO PORT STANLEY: †*6:10, 7:05, *10:20 a.m., *1:20, *3:20, *5:20, *7:20, 10:20 p.m.
*Limited London to St. Thomas.
†Daily except Sunday.
All trains stop at Glanworth.

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Soap, Ointment, Talcum, 25c. each. Sold everywhere. Cut. Depot: Lymans, Limited, St. Paul St., Montreal.

The STEP on the STAIRS

by ISABEL OSTRANDER

BEGIN HERE TODAY.

The report of a revolver, followed by hurrying footsteps on the stairs, interrupts the social evening which Detective Barry had planned to spend with his friend, Professor Semyonov, in the latter's room on the fifth floor of a New York apartment house. Barry and the professor rush downstairs and discover that beautiful Miriam Vane, society portrait painter, has been murdered in her studio apartment on the third floor. Gordon Ladd, a young artist on the second floor, and Henry Griswold, an irascible bachelor from the fourth, enter the studio after being told of the murder.

GO ON WITH THE STORY.

Sergeant Barry shrugged.

"When a case of this sort occurs, professor, there's little time for dope and get it quick. So you, too, heard that step on the stairs directly after the shot was fired."

Professor Semyonov laid a quick hand on his arm.

"We will discuss that later, my friend." His keen eyes beneath their shaggy brows rested for a moment on the crabbed face of Henry Griswold and then drifted to Gordon Ladd, who had once more dropped his head in his hands. "Let us have a little talk together in my rooms, as soon as the official formalities have been complied with, which will grant us temporary privacy."

Policeman Boyle descended with unexpected haste.

"That's one of those nutty artistic dames up there, with hair like a sky terrier and the nerve of a mouse!" he confided in a quick undertone to Barry.

In the shabby, comfortable living room once more, the professor lowered the light and raised the window shades with a sigh of relief, then turned to his younger companion.

"What do you make of it all, Sergeant? Who do you think killed the Vane woman, and why?"

Barry shrugged.

"The last part of your question probably answer the first part as well. I haven't have time to draw any definite conclusions as yet, have you?"

Professor Semyonov sank once more into his own chair and motioned to the one opposite.

"Only some very obvious minor ones," he responded. "She was shot by no stranger, but by someone whose presence in her studio at the moment was known to her. Remember she was standing or sitting directly before her easel and evidently painting or starting to paint when the end came. No intruder could have got so close to her, or practically between her and the easel in order to fire directly into her heart without her knowledge. It is possible that she turned to speak to this person and thus unwittingly gave opportunity for an unimpeded aim. I think it is fairly certain that she did not anticipate what was coming."

Barry nodded.

"That seems clear. But about those footsteps that we both heard going down the stairs when we opened your door here just after the shot startled us?"

"Going up, my friend, not down!" the professor interrupted.

"Up?" repeated Barry. "Why we passed nobody on the stairs, and there are only two other apartments—Griswold's below you, and the woman above in the attic! According to Officer Boyle the woman went into hysterics when she heard the news and you know yourself how you had to pound upon Griswold's door to arouse him and how leisurely and reluctantly he came down finally to investigate! There did not seem to be anywhere in the hallway, badly lighted as it was, where anyone could have hidden himself.

Professor Semyonov smiled and his white whiskers lifted slightly.

"I am not thinking of the woman," he said. "Nor do I imagine that we passed anyone unobserved in our descent, hurried as it was.

"Who was Miriam Vane? From whence did she come? If the excellent organization of which you are a part should in the next few days learn anything of Mrs. Vane's antecedents or previous history and associates which is not given out generally to the press, would it be too great a breach of professional etiquette to put me into strictly confidential possession of it?"

"By no means, professor, in view not only of your standing but of the splendid services you have rendered voluntarily to the homicide bureau in the past," Barry responded.

"I shall be grateful," the professor declared. "I know nothing, absolutely nothing more than you, and yet I have formed a theory which I should like to test and which I think only Mrs. Vane's past will prove or disprove."

Sergeant Barry smiled to himself, though not a muscle of his countenance betrayed his inward amusement. He thought he knew what that theory, engendered by an almost childish personal animosity, consisted of, and he was glad to humor the foibles of this old man, so great in his own line.

"Just what is generally known about Mrs. Vane, beyond the prominence her odd style of portraiture has brought her lately?" he asked.

"I know only what I have seen casually in the papers about her and what Mrs. McGrath, entirely without encouragement, has volunteered," replied the professor. "Mrs. Vane arrived last October from France, I believe. It was some two months later that her vogue began and spread like wildfire, so that by spring she was quite famous."

"There can be no doubt of her

"ONE OF THOSE NUTTY ARTISTIC DAMES WITH THE NERVE OF A MOUSE."

strange, whimsical talent," Barry remarked. "That unfinished portrait before which she lies dead, for instance; it is as unmistakably recognizable as a photograph. I fancy Mr. Theodore Vansittart would give something to have his wife's picture removed before the notoriety of tomorrow."

Professor Semyonov nodded slowly.

"You observed the most prominent thing in the portrait, did you not?" he asked. "The Vansittart emerald? It has figured in more than one unsavory episode in the traditions of its history, yet it is the pride of the family. Perhaps that is the reason why Mrs. Vane has, one might say, maliciously emphasized it. The portrait was to have been that of a jewel, not a lady."

"And the critics will fall upon that fact like dogs upon a bone!" Barry laughed and then his face sobered. "How long have the other tenants been in the house, Professor Semyonov?"

"The thin, little creature in the attic studio was here when I came, two years ago next October, and heaven knows how long before that," he responded. "The young man, Mr. Ladd, moved in only three months ago, on the first of May, and my morose neighbor, just below, took possession a year before that after I myself had been here six or seven months. The janitor, or superintendent, looks as though he might have been the furnace man for the original householders and his name I believe to be Kedge."

As he spoke there came a respectful but authoritative knock upon his door and he arose with a sigh and waddled over to admit a long-armed, wiry young man whose blue eyes were as keen as Barry's own.

"Hello, Craig!" the latter cried before either of the others could speak. "Did the chief send you over from headquarters to take charge of the case? Mr. Semyonov, this is Sergeant Craig, from the homicide bureau."

"I guess we all know what Professor Semyonov has done for us in times past." The newcomer laughed as he shook hands, then turned frankly to Barry. "I don't know why the chief assigned me to this job when you were already on the ground, John, but orders are orders and I'll be thankful for a little unofficial co-operation."

"I've got to interview the other tenants of the house," said Craig. "Are there any pointers you could give me first?"

"You haven't seen them?"

"No. I read the statements they made to the precinct dicks and then came straight for you. They're each in their own apartments with a guard on each landing and two on the street below, one at the entrance door and one where the fire escape comes down outside the studios, by that vacant strip of land. There's no other way any of them can get out for Boyle and the other two went over the roof thoroughly," Craig replied. "It looks like an inside job all right, for Boyle was right outside the house when he heard the shot fired and nobody could have come out of the door or down the fire escape without his seeing them."

"What did the medical examiner say?" Barry asked after a pause, in a cautious undertone.

"Not much; you know he's always like a clam until he gets his report in at headquarters, and he has still the autopsy to make," the other responded. "It was a bullet from a small pistol that killed her, though, and it was fired from a considerable distance for there were no powder marks on the body nor anywhere else that we could find. Come down to the studio where the murder was committed yourself and have another look around; the tenants can wait."

Barry agreed with a nod and together they descended past Griswold's door where a grinning policeman saluted them and from behind which came a defiant series of snores. On the landing below another officer stool on guard, but the door swung idly on its hinges, the body had been removed and the lurid, counterfeit daylight had been extinguished, leaving only the soft, opalescent glow of the lamps in the luxurious, deserted living room.

"Did you notice after you smashed in that this is a spring lock?" Craig had paused at the entrance. "Anyone could have run out after firing that shot and pulled the door shut behind him and it would have locked of itself. It's the only one of its kind in the house, too; the janitor'll have to explain that, and if he don't come back by morning we'll get the dragnet out after him."

(Continued in Our Next Issue.)

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TAYLOR'S
Throat and Lung Balm
has been the favorite household remedy for coughs, colds and all bronchial affections. Sheer merit alone has made this medicine the standard cough remedy for over 50 years.
35c, 65c and $1.20.
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Phone 594. Three Graduate Druggists. tf xv

GRADUATES WILL OBTAIN DIPLOMAS

ST. THOMAS, Jan. 17.—Monday next will be graduation day at the Amasa Wood Hospital of this city.

In the Engineers' Hall of this city diplomas will be presented during the evening to the seven members of the graduating class, including Misses Gwendolyn Birt, Miss Pearl Giles, Kate Giles, May Sandison, Annie McLean, Hannah King and May Dolson.

The exercises promise to be a brilliant affair, as already plans are being made to make the evening an unprecedented success. Following the presentation of the diplomas, a dance will be held.

It has not been decided yet who will present the diplomas. In other years the mayor of the city officiated, but there is a possibility that a member of the hospital board will make the presentations.

Several hundred invitations have been sent out.

COST BOARD $39 FOR EACH CHILD'S TUITION

ST THOMAS, Jan. 17.—The average attendance at the public schools of this city during the year 1921 was 2,136, or a percentage of 77 out of a total enrollment of 2,746. The reason for the exceptionally low percentage was the prevalence of smallpox throughout the city during practically the whole of last winter. According to Inspector Taylor, the attendance should have been at least 95 per cent.

The total cost of operating the schools was $107,147, making the cost for each pupil enrolled $39, and of the average attendance $50. The high cost of each pupil was due to the low average attendance. Approximately $20,000 of the taxes was spent with no adequate returns, due almost entirely to the smallpox epidemic.

Because the school attendance act had paved a way for tuition practically no opposition was given from any quarter to the enforcement of the adolescent act, according to Mr. Taylor.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM TIME TABLE CHANGES

SUNDAY, Jan. 22, 1922.

Train leaving London 8:20 p.m. daily for Sarnia, Port Huron and principal intermediate stations, and train leaving Port Huron 12:10 p.m., Sarnia, 1:20 p.m., daily except Sunday, will make last trip Saturday, Jan. 21.

Train leaving London, 7:20 a.m., daily except Sunday for Brantford, Toronto and principal intermediate stations, will leave London 7:15 a.m. daily except Sunday, for Brantford, Toronto and principal intermediate stations, arriving in Brantford 9:20 a.m., instead of 9:25 a.m.

Train leaving Port Huron 3:25 p.m. daily, will be run daily except Sunday, and leave Port Huron 3:15 p.m., Sarnia, 4:35 p.m., arriving London 6:35 p.m.

Train leaving London 9:05 a.m. daily except Sunday for Wingham and intermediate points, will leave London 9:00 a.m. daily except Sunday. 35-k-yxvt

KENT FARMERS DECIDE NOT TO FIGHT MURDOCK

Vote 100 to 8 That Opposition Would Create No Good.

RECENT NOMINEE AGREES

Party Claims To Be One of Constructive Force, Not Obstruction.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

CHATHAM, Jan. 17.—It is now a foregone conclusion that Hon. James Murdock, minister of labor, will be the representative of the riding of Kent in the House of Commons, by acclamation.

With a vote, 100 to 8, accredited delegates of the Kent Farmers' Political Association, carried a resolution that no opposition should be created against the candidacy of the minister of labor.

The resolution, in part, reads: "That there is no good purpose to be gained in opposing the candidature of the Hon. James Murdock at this time. First, because the people at the recent election voted overwhelmingly for the party of which Mr. Murdock is a member. Second, that it would create needless expense when economy should be in evidence. Third, that the policy of the Progressive party is one of constructive force, rather than obstruction."

Although, it is reported, the executive took this stand at its meeting a week ago, a convention was called to secure opinions from all sections of the riding, this being considered the only democratic course.

During the meeting, Dr. McDiarmid, the Progressive candidate in the recent election, spoke briefly, stating that he could not see any object in creating opposition to the minister of labor for Kent County.

E. W. Hardy presided.

The annual meeting of the Lake St. Clair branch of the Canadian Fishermen's Association was held in the Aberdeen Hotel here this morning, and the following officers were elected:

President—W. C. Cartier.
Vice-president—Henry Daudlin.
Secretary-treasurer—G. Jubenville.
Board of directors—James Mooney, Ike Brehard, Joseph Belisle and Mr. McDonald.

SIFT CHARGE OF EXTORTION BY DEATH THREAT

Windsor Police Arrest Two Alleged Accomplices of Sandella Battista.

DISCOVER PRINTING PRESS

Authorities Believe Outfit Was Used To Prepare Blackhand Letters.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

WINDSOR, Jan. 17.—Albert Louis, 27 years old, and Clito Tenillo, 25, alleged accomplices of Sandella Battista under arrest on a charge of attempting to extort $3,000 from Louis Merlo, Walkerville contractor, by threats of death, were taken to police headquarters at 10 o'clock tonight for investigation.

At 1167 Lillian street, Windsor, where Louis and Tenillo were found, Detectives Blair and Lerriviere discovered a printing outfit which Sandella used, it is believed, to prepare blackhand letters sent to Merlo.

Louis told the police, it is said, he would be able to give complete information in a day or two about operations of a blackhand gang for which Battista is an agent.

Battista was arraigned Tuesday morning before Magistrate Gundy, but stood mute when asked to plead. A remand of eight days, bail being denied, was ordered.

FREES LOZIER OF CHARGE OF FRAUD

SARNIA, Jan. 17.—The roles were reversed in the city police court today when Joseph Lozier, police agent in recent liquor cases, was the defendant, charged with fraudulently obtaining board and lodging from John McRae, 405 Maxwell street. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and after taking evidence Magistrate Gorman stated that he found no proof of fraud, and in dismissing the charge advised the parties to get together and arrange a settlement of the debt which Lozier owed. The magistrate held that although Lozier had not occupied his room since Dec. 28, he was still domiciled at 405 Maxwell street, as his clothes were still there.

Prince George Hotel
TORONTO
In Centre of Shopping and Business District
250 ROOMS
100 with Private Baths
EUROPEAN PLAN
E. WINNETT THOMPSON, MAN'G. DIR.

WILL CARRY OUT ADVERTISING PLAN

Chamber Will Hold Made-in-St. Thomas Week.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

ST. THOMAS, Jan. 17.—During the week June 3 to June 10 a "Made-in-St. Thomas" exhibition is to be held in the Granite Rink of this city.

Plans are already being made by the local chamber of commerce, which, it is expected, will make the show an outstanding success. The primary purpose will be to advertise to the citizens of St. Thomas the things that are manufactured in the city. It will boost in every way, it is hoped, the industrial life of the Railway City.

An extensive advertising campaign is planned through the medium of the local and outside press, post-office cancelling stamps, stickers on envelopes, streamers and communications addressed to outside civic and commercial organizations.

It is proposed to have the show opened daily from 10:30 o'clock in the morning until 11 o'clock in the evening, Sunday excepted, and to give daily musical entertainments, drills and gymnastics by school children and Y. W. C. A., Y. M. C. A. and Alma College classes.

Plan Band Concerts.

There will also be band concerts on the two Saturday evenings. Community singing will be practiced, and special invitations will be extended to the school children from the city and country, and the Children's Shelter charges. The exhibition will be opened with formal ceremonies, in which Mayor Raven and other officials will officiate.

The financing of the exhibition will be arranged as soon as an estimate of the cost has been obtained.

The interior of the rink is to be elaborately decorated for the occasion, and an arch of electric lights fitted up at the entrance. A uniform decorative style will be followed for the stalls. Citizens will also be asked to co-operate and decorate their homes and places of business.

GIVES MORE THAN $8,000.

SEAFORTH, Jan. 17.—The annual congregational meeting of First Presbyterian Church was held last night. The reports presented for the past year showed the finances to be in a satisfactory condition, more than $8,000 being contributed from all sources.

MUTUAL LIFE DIVIDENDS.
Make our policies the cheapest in the world. Let us prove it to you.
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Demonstration at Smallman & Ingram's.
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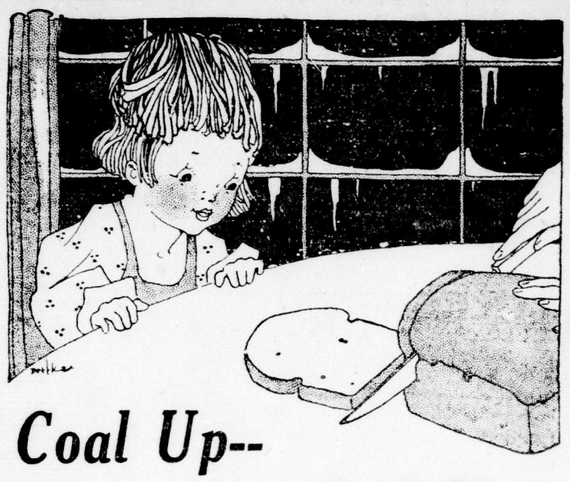

Coal Up-- or Cool Down

It's Winter! Pile on great shovelsful of coal in your furnace—or very soon your rooms will cool down.

It's Winter! Give your children bigger, thicker slices of Bread-and-Butter—the perfect fuel food, or soon Jack Frost will take toll of vitality.

NEAL'S Good White Bread

heads the list of foods that keep you warm and supply energy.

It contains sugar, starches and fats—the great heat-forming elements—so perfectly combined, that there's no waste—only nutrition.

It is the cheapest and best fuel-food you can give your family this winter. Take example by the furnace man. It doesn't pay to let the fire run down low—cost lots more to start it up again. So cut your slices thick! And pass the Bread often—at every meal.

"The Best Loaves Are Wrapped."

Neal Baking Co., Limited
Bread Factories at
Windsor London St. Thomas Sarnia

The Barnard Sale---

presents a wonderful opportunity for you to purchase the highest grade jewelry merchandise at remarkably low prices. Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Cut Glass and Novelties, all at discounts ranging from 20 to 50 per cent. BUY NOW!

A Very Special Selling of Fine French Pearls All This Week

Lot 1. 10 fine strands of varying lengths, values up to $50.00, on sale at $17.50
Lot 2. 8 fine strands of very fine quality, values up to $25.00, on sale at $11.50
Lot 3. 7 strands only, long and short, values up to $11.00, on sale at $5.00
Lot 4. 6 only strands of fine French pearls, values up to $5.00, on sale at $2.50
Lot 5. 27 strands of wax-filled beads, values to $4.00, on sale at ..... 25c each
Lot 6. 3 only Mother of Pearl Necklets, values to $7.50, on sale at $3.95
Genuine hand-carved Jap Bone Beads, on sale .. $1.50
All Glass Beads, in plain colors and Black $1.50

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1921---
The Banner Year

Watch for the Annual Financial Statement of the "Old Huron & Erie," which will shortly be published.

Five Features of the Year's Solid Progress

1. The largest profits in the Corporation's history.
2. A substantial addition to the Reserve Fund.
3. An increase in the volume of Savings Deposits.
4. A striking gain in the total of debentures issued in Canada.
5. And best of all---no bad debts.

Huron & Erie Interest Rates
Savings Deposits withdrawable by check.
3½% and 4%
per annum.
Debentures issued for any term of twelve months to five years.
5½%
per annum.
Four Branches in London.

The Corporation does not own nor does it hold any buildings or land other than its own office premises.

FOR THE FOURTEENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR NOT A DOLLAR'S WORTH OF PROPERTY (mortgaged to the Corporation and falling into its possession by reason of foreclosure or power of sale proceedings) REMAINS UNSOLD.

This is an investment record which vindicates the sound and conservative investment policy consistently followed by Huron & Erie Directors. A record which will gratify Huron & Erie Shareholders, Debenture-holders and Depositors, and justly give them cause for pride.

For fifty-seven years — with increasing success — the Huron & Erie has conducted a mortgage loaning business in Canada.

The Huron & Erie Mortgage Corporation
"Older than the Dominion of Canada."
HUME CRONYN, General Manager. T. G. MEREDITH, K.C., President.