

THE RED BUTTON

A MYSTERY STORY OF NEW YORK

By WILL IRWIN

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"I am so glad," she said, "that they have finally let you off, Mr. North. Nobody would have had any idea that you were really a detective. It must have been a horrible experience. She stopped, and her eyes were fixed on something across the room. "Horrible!" she repeated.

"But everybody's going to get off easily, just as Mr. North did—don't you wait!" said Betsy-Barbara, touching her hand with a consoling little pat. Now the others were come. Miss Harding acknowledged Tommy's presence with a look of her eyes, which said: "Well, you're out of your latest scrape, aren't you?" Miss Jones was plainly thrilled by the proximity of this now famous personage. Professor Koll, lost in the metrical mastication of a new wheat-and-oats compound prepared by Rosalie, showed plainly his ignorance of the fact that Mr. North had been away at all.

When they thought had now become a matter of entire indifference to Tommy North. The rest of the boarders put down his rapt silence to embarrassment over his late experience, and they left him out of the conversation. It was just as when Miss Harding remarked, "Wasn't that a terrible accident up in the Bronx?" he would have answered, had he been required to answer. "They are just the blue of periwinkles." When Professor Koll said in his heavy and formal way, "Yes, indeed—oh, yes, indeed," he would have said that the question—as a matter of fact it referred to the weather—had been answered. "Hasn't she a wonderful mouth!" Twice he laughed uproariously, causing Miss Harding to remark that he was getting back his old spirits, anyhow. This was when Betsy-Barbara ventured a mild joke. Twice again she included him in the conversation. Once she asked for the butter, when she asked for the salt, and once she referred to him the question whether one could reach the city hall by Brooklyn, sooner by trolley or by subway, whereat he got temporary reputation as a joker by answering, "Both." He sat dazed through the soup, ecstatic through the roast, and rapt through the dessert. Only when Betsy-Barbara and Constance rose together, did he remember that he had finished long ago. And then something happened which scattered the mist about him and brought him full into sunlight. Betsy-Barbara had turned at the door—turned back to him.

"Mr. North," she said, "would it be possible for me to speak to you alone this evening? You see, she went on before he got tongue to reply, "both Mrs. Hanska and I are working as hard as we can on this case. Mrs. Hanska is almost prostrated by the dreadfulness of it all. I'm trying to spare her as much as possible. I heard you testify, of course. But I thought I'd like to talk to you myself. Perhaps there's something—something tiny, little thing that you'd never thought of before, which would make the difference in the world. It might be the means of saving Lawrence—Mr. Wade—for, of course, he's innocent. I do hope you realize that, Mr. North. And I hope you'll help us in any way you can."

Now as to Mr. Wade, Tommy North held his own theories—his own doubts. This moment, of course it was Wade. In his lonely and hysterical apprehensions at the Tomb, he had been forced to nail the crime to some other suspect in order to save his own reason. His mind had wandered like a leech on Wade. For Mrs. Hanska he had felt vaguely sorry, especially after his one sight of her. But this blue-and-gold elf had pronounced the edict. To Tommy North, however, Lawrence Wade was as innocent as the traditional babe unborn.

"Of course he didn't do it," Tommy asserted valiantly. "I'll help all I can, I'm sure," he added. Then, eagerly, "Now?"

"The drawing-room is empty if you want to talk," said Rosalie from the door. She turned away with a smile on her lips and a glint in her eye. And Tommy sat down before his instructor. It was little he added to the evidence, prolonging this pleasant Third Degree as he might. He could but retell the story. Only one thing he evaded, dodged, eluded. It was his condition on that night. And suddenly Betsy-Barbara, in her best school mistress manner, came out with it. "Now, one other thing," she said. "I beg your pardon for being so personal, but weren't you a little—well, a little—she floundered for a word, and suddenly the whole face of her became a rose petal. "Only slightly I mean, of course—but weren't you a little or even 'slightly'?" said Tommy, writhing in an agony of shame. "I was entirely."

For a second time that day a woman looked on him with eyes of rebuke. Momentarily Betsy-Barbara left the main track. "And what did you do it?" she inquired. "Not that it is my business, perhaps. I only wondered."

"I don't know," said Tommy. "I just kept on drinking until this was all my mind. I guess," he added suddenly, "there was nothing else to do. This came to him as a bright and perfect answer. He was totally unconscious that he had quoted Rosalie Le Grange.

Betsy-Barbara smiled and wagged her head, so that the shaft of golden light across her hair shifted from left to right and from right to left. "In New York?" she said. "Nothing else in New York?"

"Unaccountably Tommy North's tongue unlocked itself, what with the necessity of defending himself, and he talked. "Well, that's all a woman knows about it. I can't spend my time riding on the Rubberneck Wagon, can I? When the wheels blow, a man feels like doing something. I don't always want to feed in a joint like this. Sometimes I want to get some fancy eats. So I percolate through Lobster Lane."

"Oh," exclaimed Betsy-Barbara, "what a quaint name!"

"I mean Broadway," explained Tommy.

"Well, I got a cocktail or two, or maybe three, according to whom I meet. Then I eat—and drink—and when we beat it out on to Jones B. Gough over on I see trembling on your lips. I don't need it. I've got mine all right. I've lost my job today on account of having been away."

To Betsy-Barbara, herself engaged in the economic struggle, this fact seemed more important than to Tommy. "You have?" she asked. "Oh, I am so sorry! I've given up my position in Arden in order to be with Constance, and I don't know how I shall live after three months. But something will turn up, I'm sure. Had you held your place long?"

"Six months or so," replied Tommy. "That's all right. You can find another guess—or could if this hadn't got into the papers." "Well, I'm awfully sorry," said Betsy-Barbara, rising. "But such wonderful things happen to people in New York. Everybody's a Dick Whittington here. Only the climb you find another."

"No," replied Tommy, decidedly. "And his heart added, 'Not while you're around.' But his lips, 'Remember, if there is anything I can do.' "Oh, thank you," replied Betsy-Barbara, "good-night!"

At the door of the dining-room next morning, Rosalie Le Grange met Mr. North. "Thought my proposition over?" she asked.

"Yes, I guess I'll stay," replied Tommy, shortly.

"Thought you would," replied Rosalie. And as she entered the room before him, she was smiling in the air. Decidedly, she was enjoying her life in these days with vicarious troubles, but also with vicarious joys.

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MINOR BUSINESS

DISPOSED OF BY

BOARD OF WORKS

Clinkers From Incinerator To Be

Used to Strengthen the

Breakwater.

ROAD CONGRESS REPORT

Automobile Traffic Bylaw To Be

Altered to Give More Time

in Downtown Parts.

The board of works on Thursday

night authorized the city treasurer to

collect \$250 from the C. P. R. Com-

pany, being the share of the cost of

Talbot street subway improvements. The

work has been completed, but the

company has not yet offered to pay

over the amount which it agreed to

bear.

The city engineer was instructed to

use the clinkers from the incinerator

in strengthening the front street

breakwater. He advised that it would

be unwise to patch the present wood-

en breakwater, but that clinkers and

other hard material dumped behind

it would tend to lengthen its service.

He would not recommend any other

temporary repairs. "We recommended

a new breakwater," said Chairman

Bennett, but the council seemed to

hesitate and refused to give the pro-

vision for it. We must do the next

best thing." The present structure is in

a very rotten condition and the engi-

neer was of the opinion that it would

not last much longer.

of pavements. Their report stated that the chief interest of the congress centred in the construction and maintenance of country and national highways rather than in city pavements. They were much impressed with the Wayne County concrete roads, and mobile excursions over which were arranged by the Wayne County board of road commissioners. The cost per square yard varies from \$1.15 to \$1.40, and in the opinion of the local delegates the type of concrete pavement laid in Wayne County would be worthy of consideration for roads in Middlesex and the vicinity of London. Engineer Ashplant's report states that the roads vary in width from 16 to 20 feet, and have armored expansion joints ranging from 25 to 35 feet apart, the joints and sharp edges being protected from abrasion by 1x3-inch soft steel plates running the full width and shape of pavement surface between the plates is inserted tarred or asphalt saturated felt, or paving pitch. The plates are provided with shear members, which tie them securely to the concrete. These pavements are not reinforced, and the local officials do not deem it necessary to incur the extra expense of reinforcement for these narrow strips of highway.

There were present at the meeting of the board Chairman Bennett, Ald. Robinson, Ald. Saunders, City Engineer Ashplant, Building Inspector Piper and Acting Secretary Frank Hughes.

POLICE CONVICTIONS

SHOW AN INCREASE

Mr. Moule's Record Give 350 More

Than Last Year.

According to the police statistics, compiled for the Dominion Government by Mr. John Moule, police court clerk, and Miss Gladys Gower, court stenographer, 1,553 summary convictions were secured in the local police court from Oct. 1, 1912, to Oct. 1, 1913, which was 350 more than last year. Of these 143 were for indictable offences.

According to Mr. Moule, drunkenness is on the increase in this city. A new traffic bylaw was responsible for the major number of the convictions. Several fines of \$100 were imposed for breach of the liquor license act, and one of \$75 for a breach of the immigration act. People of all creeds and nationalities appeared before the magistrate during the year.

The statistics, which used up a great many sheets of foolscap, have to be compiled every year for the Dominion Government, and are forwarded to the Minister of Justice by Mr. Moule.

LEGAL QUERIES

READER—If I rent a house, can the landlord put me out in the winter if anybody offers him more rent than I am paying, or can he put me out in the snow, with nowhere to go, and can I put boarders out after giving them notice, and they don't go at the end of their time?

Ans.—You can be put out at any time at the end of a month of your tenancy if you have been given a month's notice to quit. You can put out your boarders after notice to them.

THEDFORD.

Thedford, Oct. 17. Miss Violet Brooks, of Toronto, is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Brooks.

Mr. Dan Cole, of Lakeside, was the guest of his sister, Mrs. W. P. Johnson, recently.

Mrs. Jefferies, of North Rose, N.Y., is spending a few weeks here.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hall, who have been on a trip to the Northwest, have returned.

Mr. Isaiah Bailey is spending a couple of weeks in Sarnia.

Claude Stephenson and wife are spending a week with relatives in Sarnia.

Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, who have

spent the past week visiting in Toronto and Cleveland, have returned.

Home-like Comfort and Accommodation

Conditions for home-like comfort on the trip

England are made well-nigh perfect by the

moderately constructed

R.M.S. Royal Edward

R.M.S. Royal George

Both boats are modern, comfortable, and on each is

personal attentive service to each passenger,

and roomy accommodation.

Le. Montreal. Str. Lv. Bristol, Eng.

Sat., Oct. 4, R. Edward, Sat., Oct. 12

Sat., Nov. 1, R. Edward, Sat., Nov. 15

Sat., Nov. 16, R. George, Sat., Nov. 23

Apply to any steamship agent, or H. C. Boulter, General Agent, Toronto, Ont.

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Ladies' and Misses' Suits at \$15

WORTH \$18 and \$20.

We announce a special purchase of Ladies' Tailored Suits, the regular selling prices of which would be \$18 and \$20. Materials are serges, tweeds and Venetian broadcloths. Everything to be desired in a Suit can be obtained in this special at \$15. Materials, style and trimming, all perfect. These will go with a rush Saturday.

Regular \$18 and \$20 Suits at \$15.00

Thanksgiving Display and Sale of Linens

IRELAND'S BEST IN LINENS

TABLE LINEN SETS.

Cloth and Napkins to match.

Sets at \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50, \$7.00, \$7.50 and up to \$15.00.

LINEN CLOTHS.

At \$1.39, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$6.00. All sizes.

NAPKINS.

22x22 and 24x24.

At dozen, \$3.00, \$3.25, \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$4.50.

FANCY LINENS.

New Centre-Pieces, End-Pieces, and all lines of fancy linens.

Cloakings, Suitings and Dress Materials

NAVY SERGE, 52 inches wide, extra

fine twill. This is lovely material for the

always reliable suit or dress; navy blue.

Specially priced at, yard.....\$89¢

FRENCH SERGES—In navy, red, gray,

purple, black and white, 50 inches wide. A

yard.....\$79¢

GOLF CLOTHS—For children's coats,

with check backs, 52 inches wide. All the

new autumn colors. Yard.....\$1.50

TWEEDS FOR ODD SKIRTS—50 to 54

inch width, in all the good shades. At per

yard.....\$1.00

CATERPILLAR CLOTHS—For coats, in

red and black, brown and gray. Lovely ma-

terial for coats. At yard.....\$2.50

BLACK SILK—39 inches wide, extra

heavy quality, guaranteed not to cut. Special

at yard.....\$98¢

PERSIAN SILKS FOR TRIMMINGS—

18 to 36 inches wide, yard, \$1.00 to \$1.50

When you buy

Ham or Bacon

—don't be satisfied with

"just" ham or "ordinary"

bacon. A little thought

—a little effort on your part—will bring its

reward in the shape of the juiciest, tenderest

and most delicious Ham or Bacon you ever

tasted. Make a point to-day to try "Swift's

Premium." It will be a new experience in

palate delight.

"Swift's Premium"

Hams and Bacon

are always dependable because always the same.

Carefully

Selected

Hickory

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When you say "Premium" to your dealer you are asking for the best.

Look for the brand "Swift's Premium" and insist on getting it.

Swift Canadian Co., Limited

Toronto

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Edmonton

(4)

Cures Diseases

Of the Kidneys

And Is Depended On Right Stomach

and Liver Disorders.

Once Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are introduced into the family and their efficiency becomes known they are usually found too valuable to do without. For everything arising from liver and bowel disorders they bring relief promptly, and when complicated diseases of the kidneys and liver develop they often prove a successful cure after doctors have failed. As an illustration, you may read the following, which was received a few days ago:

Mrs. John Wright, 53 McGee street, Toronto, Ont., writes: "I have used Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills for ten years, and would not be without them. My husband suffered from kidney trouble, and after taking treatment from several doctors without receiving any benefit, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, which worked a complete cure, since that time we have used them for all stomach and liver disorders."

One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, all

dealers, or Remondson, Bates & Co.,

Limited, Toronto.

Remondson, Bates & Co.,

Limited, Toronto.

Remondson, Bates & Co.,

Limited, Toronto.

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

SARNIA TUNNEL TO SUSPENSION

BRIDGE AND TORONTO.

Arrive from the East—*3:55 a.m.,

10:55 a.m., *11:15 a.m., *11:25 a.m.,

*6:30 p.m., *7:55 p.m., *9:45 p.m.,

Arrive from the West—*12:14 a.m.,

*2 a.m., *11:55 a.m., 1:10 p.m., *4:10