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OLUTE ZERO

BY FRANK LILLIE POLLOCK.

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of the long-suffering cities of the middle west. The police department was
his, and he used it much as a German
"Why, I used to kno
well," I said cautiously.
"We'd be glad to see baron of old might have used his mercernaries, but his end was at hand. The municipal elections were near, and the Citizens' Reform League were straining every nerve to put up a decent ticket, and incidentally (and successfully) to collect evidences of the misdoings of the present holders of of-

part, acting as one of the league's special detectives, for which I was qualhave been in actual collusion with one said a voice. or more gangs of "high-class" safehad not sufficient proof to convict or had our man shadowed wherever he after me

nocently in that city, and then took a earth to call on." ticket for Denver, still in my unsuspected company. As we left the depot older, I thought, than he should have at the destination, however, I lost him done. He had been a big, handsomelyin some unaccountable manner and built man, but he was stooped, his could not pick up the trail. I could head showed patches of grizzle, and not well call on the local detectives for his face was pitifully lined. Moreover, help, but I went through the city as his nerves were clearly in rags. He

 $oldsymbol{oldsymbol{0}}$ "I'm pretty sure he is," was the re- \ "Nothing here," said Glenny, im-"Why, I used to know him pretty

"We'd be glad to see any friend of Mr. Glenny's," continued the clerk, still looking at me curiously. "He seems to be a stranger in town. He's been here for two or three weeks, and to tell the truth wa're attilled. been here for two or three weeks, and to tell the truth we're getting a little uneasy about him—not afraid of his bill, you understand. But he don't we've were in a chamber perhaps 15 feet.

We were in a chamber perhaps 15 feet. fied by some experience with the gov-ernment secret service. It was not happen in the house. You'd better go

"It's Billy Kirkman," I said. "Den't

owers and counterfeiters. As yet we you remember me, Glen, at varsity " A crack was opened and an eye apeven to serve as a campaign weapon, peared, then Glenny swung the door so we preserved an awful silence and wide, dragged me in and slammed it "Lord, Kirkman, I'm glad to see

Thus, when he left town ostensibly for St. Louis, I was detailed to follow friend—I never needed one more! I him. He spent several hours most inswear I couldn't think of a soul on

He had changed greatly, and looked

Dahan had been a guiding wheel in ply. "Are you a friend of his?" look-patiently. "This is just my workshop. Step on here, and we'll go below."

Then I observed that in the center of the long suffering of the midof the floor was a moveable platform like that of a freight elevator. Glenny had lighted a long candle and gave it to me to hold while he manipulated the

misdoings of the present holders of ofmisdoings of the present holders of ofmisdoing holders of the present holders of ofmisdoing holders of the present holders something seems to be troubling him delicate thermometers. An iron shaft badly, and we'd hate to have anything ran down, apparently from the room above, and connected with a small long before we found good reason to up and see him. Don't tell him that and complicated machine in the cornsuspect a most astonishing state of things; Kearnahan himself seemed to "Who is it? I can't see anybody," the contract of the cornsuspect of the cornsusp in the rock floor. Its massive metal lid was raised, and in the cavity lay some long object covered with a blan-

> "That," said Glenny solemnly, "is my evil angel." "It looks very harmless," I said, more carelessly than I felt, and pulled off

the cloth. I shall never forget the shock. I hardly knew what I expected to find-perhaps a corpse, but there lay a marvelous statue of a man in solid gold, a little less than life size, and some-what spongy-looking, but absolutely Every hair, every thread of the clothing was duplicated in the precious metal and glittered in the candle-light. But at the moment I



"The cold box stood open and I tragged him into it."

having a suicide.

any clew. It was most mortifying, for his adroit disappearance strengthened the presumption that he was engaged in shady transactions. Nearly three weeks I spent in rushing about the state and finally returned, discouraged and disgusted, to Denver.

At the hotel I glanced over the register for some time back, as is my habit, and found a name which interested me, though it was not that of the man I sought. Years ago I had known Carl Glenny at the University of Chicago, where he was one of the most brilliant men in physical science they ever turned out, a devourer of scholarships. He had made no friends, scarcely any acquaintances, owing to a curiously stand-offish manner that he wore, it seened to me against his real nature. I believe I was the only man with whom he had any intimacy, and he never invited me to his rooms, and always met me with something of the embarrassment of a shy lover keeping a tryst. It was not a question of He seemed to have plenty of The students simply considered him "queer," and let him alone, as he seemed to desire. I had never heard of him since leaving college, and here he was at the Hotel Denison. "Do you know whether Mr. Glenny s in?" I asked the ele"k.

"EAT AND

That's the wial of the dyspeptieand yet he must eat to live. Dr. Von Stan's Pheepple Teblets pave the way to good appetite, and they "knock ut" Indigestion and

or narcotic-wouldn't harm the most delicate ran a long bench littered with strange st mach—they're pleasant to use—handy to carry.
They stimulate digestion, prevent fermentation, make the blood rich, give nerve and brain force.

They stimulate digestion, prevent fermentation, make the blood rich, give nerve and brain force.

The stimulate of the blood rich give nerve and brain force. The seat of most sickness is the stomach. Dr. some of the apparent of most sickness is the stomach. Dr. some of the apparent of glass had been actuvon Stan's Pineapple Tablets permit no enemy to and fragments of glass had been actuber the way I went through practical branch there is and theoretical physics. I seemed to

For sale by C. McCallum & Co.

scientifically as I knew how and af- could not sit or stand still for a mo- scarcely realized the miracle of its terwards visited Leadville, Colorado ment, and it seemed to me he was workmanship and material, for the Springs and Pueblo, without finding gulping down a fit of hysterics as we form and features were those of Aushook hands. I did not much wonder that the hotel people were afraid of

> 'You look run down," I remarked. "What's the matter?" "The matter, the matter?" he said. "Why, man, I'm rerather wildly. joicing. I'm a free man, pretty nearly for the first time since I can remem-

"You look it," I said. "Stop it." He had burst into a rear of discordant laughter, rolling in his chair, and he kept it up till I emptied the water pitcher over his head. Then he sat up dripping, and looked at me more sane-

"Thanks," he said seriously. "That was what I needed. But you've no idea how badly, I've wanted help or advice. I say, you've got to come with me. I can't tell you here; you'd never

believe it. Will you" Half an hour later we were on an evening train for Limestone, where we spent the night. Glenny was excited and moody by turns, but he would give me no hint of the cause. Next mornwe hired two saddle horses and rode up a very devious trail into the mountains for nearly two hours. This brought us to a little valley where stood the rude buildings of what might have been a mine. There was an enshed with a tall smokestack and an enormously long belt that ran over

a couple of intermediate pulleys to a small galvanized iron house ten yards We tied the horses under the atvay. pines, and Glenny led the way to the house. There seemed no living being about the valley, and he unlocked the strongly fastened door.

The single room seemed to have been

designed partly as a laboratory, and partly as a dwelling-place. There was an iron bed, with other domestic ar-Dyspopsis with no uncertain blow. rangements at one side, while along The tablets do not contain any injurious drug the other, bouch littered with strange The seat of most sickness is the stomach. Dr. some of the apparatus was broken, burned table.

"In heaven's name!" I ejaculated. "Is this a mine Do you mean to say that you cast that statue yourself? Do you know that it's the most wonderful

thing ever done?" "I dare say," said Glenny. "I knew you wouldn't believe unless you saw it. But it isn't a statue; it can't be called anything but a corpse—at any rate it's all that remains of the man. Do you know him?"

"I know the face," I cried. "But this Yes," he said. "I'll tell you all about it. I wanted you to see for yourself. You probably don't know that I was once something of a cracksman, did you?"

"I certainly did not." "It was before I was 20, and I was quite a success at it. That was how I came to know him," pointing at the olden image that regarded the roof with a yellow stare. "He kept a gambling-house in New Orleans then, and one night I tried to get into his safe with some tools of my own invention, and he came down and caught me in the act. Greatly to my surprise, he did not have me arrested, but after a long talk over a revolver bar-

rel, he let me go. That was the beginning. Nobody can think worse of Kernahan than I do, but he had more foresight and shrewdness than any other man I ever knew. I was arrested a month later for another affair, and he bailed me out, and then told me to jump my bail and go north, where he would look after me. It seems that he detected my scientific bent before I discovered it myself, and he sent me to a good school, where they hammered mathematics and elementary science into me, and finally matriculated me for Chicago University, where you saw me. 'I don't want you to fall in love, take to drink, make any friends, or get religion, he said to me. 'Outside that you can do as you hanged please, and call on me for the price. I know you've got the head for what I want.' "It seemed that I had. You remem-

and I never was happier in my life, except for his prohibition against making friends. I felt too much gratitude, however, to disobey him in anything, but I never could understand the reason for it, or for his befriending me at all—till I graduated.

Then he sent for me to his own city, where he had just got himself appointed chief of police, and I found that he had been quietly collecting evidence of all my youthful misdeeds, enough to get me a good 20 years in the prisons of two or three states. He said blandly that he wouldn't bring these things to light just at present, though, as he had some work he wanted me to do, and he proposed to establish me in a laboratory of my own in St. Louis.

'Of course I jumped at the opening. I had hoped to spend my life in scientific work, and I would rather have faced death than 20 years of penal servitude just then. But it wasn't long before I discovered what sort of scientific labors were to be imposed upon me. Kearnahan made no bones about telling me that he was 'interested in' the enterprises of half a dozen gangs of expert safe-crackers and counterfeiters, and he wanted to apply modern science to these industries. He never accompanied the gangs on their raids, understand, but he supplied the capital and acted as 'fence,' and got

hold of most of the profits. "I rebelled, of course, but what could I do? I've often wondered since what I ought to have done. The prison blocked every road but one. In short, I succumbed and went to work, and nice work it was! There was no sort of lawless implements that I didn't handle. Molds and dies for coining, chemical erasers for bank notes and checks. electric drills and blowpipes for safecracking-I had them all. I did good work, too, and I am ashamed to say that it was not very long before the scientific side of the work began to eclipse the moral, in my mind. I had plenty of time for private experimenting besides, and Kearnahan bought the costliest apparatus for me without a kick. He said I was worth \$20,000 a year to him, and, in fact, I believe that some of the cleverest robberies of that

period owed their success to me. But the more I came to know of my master the more I loathed him. He never made any pretensions to piety even in his public life, you know; he posed as a 'sport,' but his private life was a thing to turn the stomach of a beast. He wallowed in every sort vice, and how he managed to keep his wits so clear I can't imagine. He used to come to my laboratory and talk-Lord! I sicken to think of it!" "You never seem to have heard of

the thing called state's evidence," I remarked. 'Yes, but I had no direct proof, and he had it all straight against me. Besides, I knew that the influence of his 'ring' extended even to the courts, in a greater or less degree. Well, it was cowardice, I confess, but I daren't risk it. As I got to know the breadth and depth of that man's unholy power I was half-cowed, and I tried to think of

lus came to me." Glenny stopped, and was silent for half a minute. The winking candle glittered on that strange yellow effigy, and queer reflections danced on the da

nothing but science-till a new stimu-

"Except for its intellectual interests life has been bare and graceless to an unimaginable degree," he went on at last. "I hardly realized its coloressness myself till a woman came into it-if you will believe me-for the first Kearnahan never knew of my acquaintance with the Lesoirs. He wasn't in their class, and I would have felt it profanation to mention Helen's name in his brutal presence. She was the brightest thing that ever touched my existence. Man, you must remember

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Right food-right medicine -right time-these three time feat of the century, and my state things are of the utmost importance to the consumptive. Right food and right medicine -these are contained in Scott's Emulsion of pure cod-liver oil. Right time is at first sign of disease. Right time is now.

Scott's Emulsion always food helps feed. Fresh air helps cure. Scott's Emulsion of a highly explosive gas. But I nev does both. Begin early. Wa'll send you a little to try, if you like.

have a peculiar knack for the work, what my life had been-the slums and time he had ever visited the gutter and the thieves' hangout till I was 20, and nothing but retorts and ten several times. I had crucibles after that!

"I couldn't see her often, but she came to care for me-I know she did. Then-I had been going on in a sort of golden dream—then I seemed to wake up to the horror of my position, I was nothing better than a slave, chained down to crime. I would have cut my throat sooner than have dragged Helen into the net that held me, but rebellion meant the prison that would shut me off from her forever.
"I tried hard to break the cords. I plotted and planned till I almost went

gray, but I coul find no opening for escape. Those waiting years of imprisonment—I couldn't dodge them. I concluded that I had better lie low for a while and wait for an opportunity. To go up for trial meant never to see her again. I knew that! And now I've lost her, forever and to all eternity!" He ended his sentence with a sort of dry gasp.

"Well, I turned back hard to work, and moved out here. I needed a labor-atory out of the reach of the jar and vibration of a city. I was working upon the production of low temperatures, for we had an idea that by the use of liquid air in some way steel could be made as brittle as glass, and a safe door could be cracked with It was interesting, but I hammer. presently stumbled upon a discovery that promised greater things yet nothing less than the production of the Ab-

solute Zero. "That you must know, is the temperature at which all heat is absent. It is about 275° Centigrade, and has never even been approached by science. lump of matter at the Absolute Zero would be dead, as no created substance has ever been absolutely deprived of energy of any sort. Its atoms would only hold together by mere inertia, and would be liable to be broken up by any shock. I speculated a good deal as to what form matter would assume in such a state. It would be simply Matter, deprived of all its attributes, and no more iron or earth than flesh or water. I could not even decide wheth-

er it would be visible or not. "I had the underground cell built to get as far from vibration as possible, and moved the engine shed to a greater distance. You wouldn't understand my experiments if I described them, but I worked for two or three months before I saw my way clear. I had alobtained temperatures lower than had ever before been obtained. Liquid air | employed largely, but liquid air was boiling oil compared to some of the ghastly fluids I distilled under tremendous pressure and cold.

"Two months ago I arranged my apparatus for the great attempt. That stone trough in the floor was the 'cooling box,' and I put half a dozen ordinary bricks in it, locked the lid and started the machinery. For an hour I watched the self-registering thermometers go down. Down they went-200 degrees, 250 degrees, 265 degrees-and then they ceased to work. I let the experiment go on for an hour more, and then held an electric bulb over the glass window in the lid and

peeped in. "Just for a moment I saw the pile of bricks exactly as I had left them. Then, at the flash of light they seemed to move, to expand, to turn pale, and efore I realized the transformation they were white as marble and considerably larger. I raised the lid, but the gush of white vapor and awful cold that came out drove me hurriedly up the shaft in the lift. When the place was warmed a little I returned. instead of the bricks I found half a dozen blocks of solid ice, brick-shaped,

"I had half expected something of the sort. It had been a success. The self if you hadn't turned up." rays of the electric lamp had broken up the atoms of dead matter into a new molecular arrangement, which happened to be that of water. The increase in bulk simply represented the difference in the specific gravities of the old and the new compounds.

"It was certainly the greatest scienof excitement and triumph is hard to describe. Moreover, the practical possibilities of the thing were enormous, unlimited. If bricks could be turned to water, stone could be turned to diamonds; it was only a question of finding the right kind of shock to apply to the deadened matter. So I devoted myself to the problem of ascertaining what sort of shocks produced certain results, and I worked at it for weeks.

I had the terminals of an induction coil run into the cold box, and used sparks of different intensities as agents. But I could not arrive at any accurate results; the chilled matter seemed to take one turn as readily as another. Lumps of rock changed to ice or carbon readily, sometimes to helps, often cures. Ordinary lead, sometimes to air, and once I nearly blew up the whole place by sud-denly producing several thousand feet of a highly explosive gas. But I never "I had totally neglected Kearnahan's work for some time, and one morn-

ten several times. I had and gotten how I loathed him. But membered when I saw in his hand a photograph of Helen Lesoir which had hung on my wall upstairs.

The disorders of children seem to the rugged and hearty grown person to be simple and not particularly

You will always find that the mothers who are successful in bringing up families of hearty, happy children

They do not belong to the class of mothers that stupefy their children with sleeping draughts and similar

Good for all

Babies; Try

Them for Your

Baby.

with scarcely a day's sickness are always those who are careful to note the slightest evidence of illness and to

This point of view on the part of parents has been the cause of the loss of thousands of baby lives.

' 'Devil of a place you've got here,' he said. 'How about the work on chilled steel?' I see you've got Miss Lesoir's photo. Fine girl.' "I simply glared at him without say-

ing anything. "'I didn't know you knew her. Remember, I warned you against falling I won't have you marrying, not this girl, anyway. Why not?' I said.

"'Because I am going to marry her myself,' he grinned. "I believed he lied, but I was in no state of mind to balance probabilities. The man appeared to me as a pernicious reptile, that it would be an act of grace to kill. I sprang at him barehanded, and he flung a heavy glass re-tort straight at my head. It smashed on my temple, and the next instant I had him by the throat and we went down together, his head crashing on the stone floor. I thought he was dead, but after a moment I discovered that he was alive, but badly stun-ned. The cold-box stood open, for I had just finished preparations for an ent, and I dragged him into it, PYI muttering. I remember, 'Stay Stay there!' and shut down the lid.

"I swear that I had no sober notion of killing the man. If I had been in my senses I would have turned and let him out presently, and had it in so le other way. But the blood was run: 1g down my se, and I was half daze with the ble I had received. I ha ried up the sha and ran out into the woods, unconscious of where went, but feeling driven to move. must have roamed about for hours without knowing it, and I was only brought to myself by a hard pelt of

rain on my bare head. You know how thunderstorms comup in the mountains. The sky had turned a livid purple, and at that moment a flash of lightning exploded with a noise like the crack of a whip, followed instantly by a terrific clap. I ran for the house, which was not more than half a mile distant. The rain came heavier, shot through with vivid, near lightning. As I approached the buildings I saw the puffs of from the engine shed, and remembered

that I had ordered the machinery to be started at nine o'clock. I looked at my watch; it was half-past ten. "I hardly dared to think what might have happened. I had just reached the door of the house when the world seemed to turn to white fire. I was knocked down on the threshhold, and distinctly felt the earth quake at the fearful peal of thunder that came with

"But the discharge had missed me after all. It had struck our lightning-arrester, and when I got up dizzily and went into the hut I saw the ray age it had made. Jumping from conductor, it had smashed and melted the instruments, split and scarred the table, and finally seemed to have gone down the electric wires leading underground.

"I went down, and then returned to lift the lid of the cold box by When I tackle that ran above. scended again the lid stood open, but there was no corpse there-nothing

but what you see. "The horror of the thing almost upset my mind. I couldn't touch golden image. I covered it up, paid off and dismissed my enginemen and went to Denver, where you found me. was free of my tormentor, but I had become a murderer. I didn't dare think of Helen. What to do I didn't

"On the contrary," I said, "it seems to me that you should feel that most of your troubles are done with. So I argued the case with him for an hour in that cold cavern in the rock over the yellow image. Finally he cheered up a little and consented to

adopt my view.
"Tell her the whole story, as you have told it to me," I advised. "If she's any good she'll stick to you. Report the whole affair to the authorities, and take what they give you. But I think I can safely promise that you won't be badly treated." "And what will we do with this?"

said Glenny, pointing to the image. "I would remark," I said, "that you are a poor man now, and that you have here almost a hundred eighty pounds of excellent gold, worth some \$40,000 at the mint.' "Never!" he declared. "I could as soon rob a grave. No, wait. I have

a better plan. Let's see if the engines are in working order." They appeared to be, and I got up steam, with an enormous expenditure of time and unskilled labor, while Glenny busied himself with numerous

occult preparations. Finally, we started the apparatus, and waited. After an hour the machinery was stopped, and we raised the lid of the cold box by the rope and tackle in the ing as I was at work in this dungeon upper chamber. A freezing blast swept I was startled to see him letting him- up the shaft, followed by a cloud of seld down by the lift. It was the first white vapor. Its touch made me shud-

der. I hardly knew why. Glenny was pale and impatient.

Presently we went below. There was

nothing in the box, absolutely noth-"Melted to air!" he muttered,
"Melted to air! My God, Kirkman,
from this day I never touch these devil's arts again! Then we ascended the shaft for the last time, and went out to where the horses were stamping under the pines.

A Morning Prayer,

Let me today do something that shall take
A little sadness from the world's vast

A little sadness from the store,
And may I be so favored as to make
Of joy's too scanty sum a little more.
Let me not hurt, by any selfish deed
Or thoughtless word, the heart of foe
or friend;
Nor would I pass, unseeing, worthy need,
Or sin by silence when I should de-

However meager be my worldly wealth, Let me give-something that should aid my kind.

my kind.

A word of courage, or a thought of health,
Dropped as I pass for troubled hearts to find.

Let me tonight look back across the

'Twixt dawn and dark, and to my Because of some good act to beast or man—
"The world is better that I lived today."

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

HE WON OUT. She-Poor fellow! So you loved and lost, did you? He-No, I can't say that I lost anything. She returned all my presents.

the Fires.

Hard life the plucky firemen lead; the in all sorts of weather, -losing sleep, catching cold and straining their backs. Hard to have strong, well kidneys under such conditions. That's why firemen, policemen

and others, who are exposed to the weather, are so often troubled with Weak, Lame Backs and with Urinary Troubles. DOAR'S Kidney Pills

are helping hundreds of such to health. Mr. John Robinson, chief of the fire department, Dresden, Ont., says: "Prior to taking these pills I had kidnev trouble which caused severe pain in

the small of my back and in both sides. I had a tired feeling and never seemed to be able to get rested. However, I commenced the use of Doan's Kidney Pills, and after taking three boxes am completely cured. I have now no backache or urinary trouble, and the tired feeling is completely gone. In fact, I am well and strong."

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