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### When the Police Dig

The Fall of A Leaf Or A Broken Twig May Lead The Sleuth-Hounds Of The Law To The Solution Of A Great Crime Mystery.

Digging, as done by the police in places where bodies are supposed to be buried, does not consist of a mechanical turning over of the soil until a bone is discovered, as many people imagine. Very special powers of detection are called for by such searches.

This special ability is among the most useful assets police officials can have, especially in such a year as this, in the first five months of which the country has watched, with bated breath, daily newspaper reports of at least six police searches for bodies known or believed to be buried in or about certain spots.

I have been present at two such diggings in the last two months. At the first, the search by the Derbyshire police of a fox covert three miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, I had a graphic instance of how great are the difficulties and how skilled our crime investigators must be to surmount them.

#### Points in Plants.

This search, it will be recalled, was undertaken on a report from Canada, alleging that a certain man who had lived in the locality had murdered and buried two men in a part of the fox covert which was only roughly indicated.

The first action of the police was to bring to the spot a retired superintendent who remembered the coverts before the date given as that of the alleged murder. Where his eye suspected differences in plant growth or earth surfaces, police were soon plying their shovels.

This woods covers many acres and, as a man might bury a body six feet or more deep in any part of it, to dig all over such an area to such a depth and thoroughly sift it would take hundreds of men a very long time.

Here, again, police resource was necessary. I saw an official going around and examining the plant growth. He had sufficient knowledge of botany to judge the ages of the grasses, wild bulbs, and plants that abounded.

On a man he marked spots where whole patches of young growth were thriving among older growths, and here spades of earth were removed.

Those who superintended the digging watched the earth carefully. Taking shovels themselves, they turned over soil to see if the substances were any less solid than the surrounding earth.

#### How Imagination Helps.

The man who digs a deep hole usually finds himself with plenty of earth to spare when he has filled up the hole again, quite apart from the soil displaced by a body. Therefore the police suspect mounds. Also, a criminal working in a hurry does not usually pack the earth to the same solidity at all depths. This fact is of the greatest help to the police.

Again, for reasons obvious to every gardener, such men replace the earth so hurriedly that the stumps are put into the earth last. Very stony spots thus come under suspicion.

The skilled detective puts himself in the place of the man who is supposed to have committed the crime.

He approaches the wood, copse, or whatever it is that is being searched. He imagines he is carrying a body. He knows that he will seek to get as far into the wood as possible, but he knows the limitations imposed by the weight of the body.

He is now working on the law of averages, one of the most valuable helps known in the elucidation of crime.

He knows that the average criminal will avoid digging near or in a path, or anywhere where the disturbance of earth will be discovered. He is disposed to suspect bushes, but where the branches are thick, strong, and low, he knows that they would probably be too great a hindrance to digging.

#### Where Leaves Lie Thickly.

Where they are thin and supple, he knows that a criminal would be disposed to dig beneath them if other circumstances suited him.

It is important for him to remember where leaves lie thickly during the fall. Criminal records show that murderers have often chosen such spots, for the obvious reason that fallen leaves can be made to lie innocently over the foulest wounds in another earth.

One interesting point I noticed in connection with the second search at which I was present was that, in digging a garden, the police searched first a spot where the constant drainage of water kept the soil ever moist. In such a spot, of course, signs of recent digging would be the soonest effaced.

In a search amid stony country they looked out for places where the stones appeared to have been disturbed on a big scale. Stones that have lain in quantity for many years take on a settled appearance which the hand of man could not give to them, and the tops of them, of course, become whitened and washed clean.

It is the detective knowledge that tells the police where to dig that has sent many men to the scaffold and will send many more.—Answers.

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### The Riddle of the Tides

HOW THE MOON PLAYS TRICKS WITH THE EARTH.

The sea bristles with problems, of which few are more puzzling than the tides and their action. To-day, although we have proved that the tides are influenced largely by the moon, we know almost as little as the ancients did of the vagaries of the tides and of the various phenomena connected with them.

At Bournemouth, for example, there are what are known as double tides, caused, it is believed, by a tidal stream running from Spithead. This stream tends to keep back the tide in Southampton Water, with the result that at various points along the coast the tide rises for seven hours, ebbs for an hour, then rises again for about an hour and a half.

Near Arklow, on the Irish coast, there is no perceptible tide at all. Yet in the Bristol Channel the tides are among the heaviest known round our shores. Here the spring tides sometimes rise to a height of nearly fifty feet.

#### What the Ancients Believed.

The world's highest tides are those experienced in the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick, where they often rise to a hundred feet.

This variation in the height of tides has claimed much expert attention. What are known as spring tides are changes that occur at or near the time when the moon is new or full, while neap tides coincide with the moon's first or third quarter.

The seaside visitor, if he is observant, will have noticed that periodically the tide reaches its greatest height and then ebbs to its farthest point. This rise and fall diminishes for a week, and then as gradually increases, until at the end of a fortnight the maximum ebb and flow is reached once more. It is these highest tides that are termed spring tides, while the lowest are known as neap tides.

Plato recorded his belief that waves and tides were the result of the convulsions of a mighty marine monster, whose rhythmic breathing caused the ebb and flow.

#### The Moon's Powerful Pull.

Aristotle attributed tidal movements to the sun, in which he was partly right, the sun's influence, however, being much less marked than that of the moon. A satisfactory explanation of the problem was not forthcoming until Newton pronounced his theory of gravitation two centuries ago.

This influence of the moon is still imperfectly understood by large numbers of people. Briefly, it may be explained in this way. The moon's pull on the earth affects the near side more than it does the centre, while the sea responds more readily than the solid surface. The result is that the waters on the side of the earth nearest the moon are drawn together in a hump, as it were, high tides being a result.

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So far as the far side of the earth is concerned, the moon's pull affects the centre, the water being still farther away, "giving" less than the land. Hence we have high tide on this side of the earth also, with low tide occurring half-way between the two sides on which there is high tide.  
**Six Hundred Miles an Hour.**

What are known as tidal waves are the result of the sun, moon, and earth being in a straight line, the pull of gravity then affecting on a part of the earth more forcibly than any other. Such a wave may sweep right round the world at a speed of six hundred miles an hour.

Contrary to popular belief, the wind's effect on waves is comparatively slight. It has been proved that the strongest gale has no influence on water below a depth of fifty feet, whereas a tidal wave moves the whole bulk of the ocean in its path, causing an upheaval that may do in an hour or two more damage than a century of gales.

### Lavish Production at the Nickel To-Night

"ENEMIES OF WOMEN" COMMENCED ENGAGEMENT.

"Enemies of Women," Cosmopolitan Corporation's production of the Vicente Blasco Ibañez story of the same title, with Lionel Barrymore and Alma Rubens featured in the two leading roles, opens at the Nickel Theatre to-night. Alan Crosland was the director, Joseph Urban designed the settings and John Lynch prepared the scenario. With many of its scenes taken on the actual locations of the story in Monte Carlo, Nice and Paris, and with a lavishness of production never surpassed the film promises to excel the average "super production" in every way.

Blasco Ibañez proved in his brilliant "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" and "Blood and Sand" that his stories have particular screen quality. Perhaps his ability in colorful description of characters and scenes is responsible for the ease with which his stories have been brought to the screen. In "Enemies of Women," the drama of regeneration of man and woman, is laid in the background of Russian society life, shifting to Monte Carlo, and thence to Paris. Under the revels of Russian courtiers, the tragedy of the gaming tables at Monte Carlo and the love of a man and woman, there is the constant rumbling of the cannons of war. The story has practically every element in it required for a great screen drama.

Joseph Urban has designed magnificent settings for the Russian palace of Prince Luitpold, the French villa of Alicia, a replica of the Casino, and the Monte Carlo home of the Prince. Alan Crosland, the director, has had his opportunities in a number of fete, fight, fashion and emotional scenes as well as in big war episode. Besides the two featured players the cast includes Pedro de Cordoba, W. H. Thompson, Gareth Hughes, Gladys Hulette, William Collier, Jr., Mario Majeroni, Paul Panzer and Betty Bouton.

Crisco is economical for you use one fifth less than you would cooking butter or lard. Then Crisco is smokeless and odorless and helps keep your kitchen clean.—adv.

### Noted Medical Scientist to Visit Toronto

Toronto, Ont., July 10 (Canadian Press)—Dr. Cuthbert Christy, English scientist and naturalist, is one of the many leaders in science who are coming to Toronto for the 32nd annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, August 6 to 13 next.

Dr. Christy was one of a committee of three that established the fact that the tsetse fly is the transmitter of the sleeping sickness which kills thousands of negroes in Africa annually. He later sprang into fame by killing the first of the mysterious giant forest animal of the giraffe species.

The sleeping sickness of Africa is a very different disease from encephalitis lethargica, the disorder occasionally prevalent on the North American continent, sometimes called "sleeping sickness." Dr. Christy makes plain the latter malady he refers to as "sleepy sickness." The African sleeping sickness, Dr. Christy explains, originates always from the bite of the tsetse fly.



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### Turning Shorn Locks to Account

Victoria, B.C., July 10 (Canadian Press)—A new use has been found for the locks shorn in the process of bobbing and it remained for a Chinese woman to find that use. Jung Bo, wife of a prominent Chinese merchant of Victoria, returned to this city recently with bobbed hair, a most unusual style for a Chinese woman. But she carried her shorn tresses in the shape of an exquisite picture of Macao Harbor, embroidered on silk with her own

hair, working at the picture while on board and bobbings it was done before this port was reached. The necessary relief in the picture was obtained by the use of white hair, for which one of the stewards sacrificed a lock of his "pompadour."



But Mrs. Jung Bo had another claim to distinction. Garbed in a magnificent kimono of ultra-marine blue silk, she wore at wrists, throat and ankles, heavy gold bands which held pendant \$50 gold pieces. A conservative estimate placed the face value of these ornaments at \$2,000, for the gold pieces alone amounted to \$1,000, exclusive of the bands.

The West End Garage, Southside of Browning's Bridge. Phone 385 for service. July 10, eod, 14.

### SNOODLES



### The Balloonist.



By CY HUNGERFORD