presidency. To meeting refused was unanimous

In addition and his musiciar ance were M. Preston; H. J. Fred. Kress, J. Schledel, Chas. Klusman.

Schiedel, Chas. Klugman. The minutes meeting having ed Mayor Schma lowing interestir It is with mu

have the honor nual Report of the 35th in the Musical Society year has not bee

Your untiring ler, has devoted the work of the antly training n its ranks. He the most appropriagagement the the result is that ad with the ban hoven Symphony

The property of kept and guarded place. New in-chased when nec

eral equipment of date, excepting which I referred order to secure a lay of a conside money would be Treasury is not vide the funds. some scheme mathe present year Society to proviuniforms. The build having been receipepartment during The Treasurer the right side is I hope that this better footing at unity will press zens in general contributed to the city and the To iously increased \$600.00, and thank all those phst year support and the To iously increased \$600.00, and thank all those phst year support and in the present in

## Che ADVENTURE HUNTER

THE ELUSIVE CIGARETTE CASE By Hamilton Lang

ALENTINE STONE, Adventure Hunter, at-"Pardon me," said be, "I-I came because I had tained his adventures in many ways. Walking upon the streets, he would search from the highway those trivial circumstances from which he so instinctively adduced, those elements of mystery which were so fascinating to him.

A chance expression, a stray inflection, an unconsid-

and thrilling incident. Sometimes from the window

however, he was in his small runabout, his eyes niertly turning from right to left and his whole frame

The dark had come down early and the myriad

lights of the city were glowing down the irregular

perspective of street. Illusion, however, seemed rather

o becken from the less illuminated side streets, and

before he knew it. There was something quite reckt came closer Stone caught a glimpse of two men and haste. He was near a corner and there seemed to be a sufficient margin of safety; but without the least diminution of its speed it sheered around the

ruer at a terrific rate, crashing at an angle into Stone's small runabout as it did so. That minute machine crashed like an eggshell and Stone, shaken by the suddenness of the shock, found himself at the

The thing was so sudden that for an instant he bardly realized what had happened. The touring car, shaken by the impact, had for a moment swerved, but the next had gathered its force again and, without a pause and without one look from either its driver or its other occupant, had continued at its merciless and

There was something essentially cold blooded and almost demoniacal about the circumstance that, ac-customed as he was to incidents of the unusual, Stone bad never observed before. The machine had gone on as though nothing had happened. Stone looked curiously after it. Something in the posture of the men, something in the desperation of their haste, seemed to suggest to him that there had yet come to him the suggestion of one other circumstance which had in it the potentiality of drama. It seemed now, however, to have passed and Stone turned his gaze from It to the wreck which had been his machine

Philosophical, he viewed it with a whimsical smile He was, indeed, about to turn toward his apartment when an object stood out before his view under the brilliant glare of an arc lamp, which was nearly over-

It was a small object and seemed in some way to have no place among that wreck. Moving to where it lay, slightly to the side, he stooped and, picking it up,

he regarded it closely. It was a cigarette case of sil-

ver, with curious markings at its front and back. Larger by half than an ordinary one, it seemed rather

which had already gathered. He entered his chamers and threw upon the small table near the door the

minutes when his old instincts stirred themselves and

see what accident might bring forth. And he seemed

to be rewarded. In the distance, clear under the

bright electric of an opposite apartment house, there

the distance he could see, well chosen dress. What

regarded him with interest and his eyes searched the

to descry that which the small man was so obvi-

saw a figure, though dimly in the distance and half

sursue his way the other who followed would come forth, screened by such shadows as he could take ad-

Suddenly it seemed as if the man who was pursued

became conscious of this. It appeared to Stone that

he started suddenly and with an affrighted look glanced up at the window from which the adventure

anxiety, apprehension, even nanic. The man took one

gauged correctly and entered, too.

vantage of and silently and immutably follow.

took he seemed to furtively look behind him.

wrought his misfortune.

Touching its spring be withdrew a

broken wheels and battered framework.

turned his machine slowly into that one in which his apartments were situated. He had momentarily relaxed his vigilance when he was suddenly onscious of the rapid and almost impetuous approach

sensitive for the adventure which might happen.

word, had often given to him the joy of action ing. of his high apartment he would look out upon the per-sireet, and with his strange intuition for the romances ing. per. "Did you hear anything?" He sat again listensecret officials of this foreign power that is interested ever, eyed the small man, unmoved still.

"Tell me all about it." said ever, eyed the small man, unmoved still.

"How did you come to take it?"
"How did you come to take it?" he city choose them out from there. This night, head

to. I did not know what to do."

Said he. "I entered your room by chance and will stone, though outwardly unmoved, was amazed by Uninvited, he threw hinself upon a chair, and his give you an explanation. The dangers to which I the unlooked for position in which he found himself had went down in his hands. Presently he raised have been exposed have shattered my nerves. I am placed. Accustomed to surprise as he was, and usua frightened and apprehensive face, and his manner useloss. I am afraid. Even just before I entered I ally untouched by it, now he was almost perified by suggested the appearance that he was intently listengested the appearance that he was intently listeng. Suddenly fie started.

"What was that?" he said quickly, in a tense whisis one of the most merefless and experienced of the
tis one of the most merefless and experienced of the
secret officials of this foreign power that is interested

"I had it,"
What change had come in the interval? It over—you won't if you do."

The hoy flushed again and hesitated. "I had it,"
what new amazing incident had become injected into
what new amazing incident had become injected into
what new amazing incident had become injected into
what new amazing middle had become injected into
what new amazing incident had become injected into this apartment house as the first thing which pre-

paused and seemed to come to a sense of his surroundings.

"So you—you"—— gasped the man. The line of his
know of the manner in which I do it."

"So you—you"—— gasped the man. The line of his
brows drew down suddenly over the mild eyes which
recognized the page. He touched him on the shoulder throw of the manner in which I do it."

The paused a moment, "I'm going to trust you, sir," as suddenly had become hard.

The interest has a group of course of the manner in which I do it."

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The interest has a group of course of the manner in which I do it."

The paused a moment, "I'm going to trust you, sir," as suddenly had become hard.

The boy flushed. "What match box?" he asked. Stone assumed the paternal air. "Come, come, my boy," said he. "You'll get in trouble if you don't hand

## Where He Got the Box.

"A fellow who came into the place. He told me to go up with a card. He told me to look around and see if there was a silver matchbox lying around anywhere. He told me if I didn't find it to try in some way to get you to come down to see the man so that he con up to the gentleman you were with. He said he'd buy the matchbox from me if I got it. He bought it. He gave me twenty dollars for it. That's straight."

Stone gauged the boy, and it was evident that what



"Me?" said the man. "How did you know"-Then he paused again and repeated his familiar-words:-"I had to come?" But before he had reached as if it had been some peculiar curio adapted to its the end of his sentence there was an interruption, and

match, lighted his eigarette and retired from the field card extended on a silver tray, of his discomfiture, smiling at the curious crowd "This gentleman to see you,

silver cigarette case which he had come upon close to his wreck. How it had come upon the road, of course, he did not know, but in some vague way he nected it with the flying aring car which had

while the page stood wide eyed.
"And why should I not let him in?" asked Stone.

"And why should I not let him in," reiterated Stone.

convulsive sobbing.
"I--I am afraid," said he, gulping as he spoke. "I

that if he was to get the reason of his visitor's fear outly and there, though out of the line he must adopt strong measures. He deliberately took we must devise some way in which the cordon that of sight of the man who so regularly turned. Stone out his watch.

don't fell me by then I'll have to show you out and re- ask you to excuse me for a moment. I will be back

dignity, he pulled himself together.

his large eyes full upon Stone. Adventure Hunter nodded. "You interest me," box which he had left on the table near the door.

hunter was looking forth. He looked again and it service to you." for he threw off all the apparent secrecy of action peared to be carefully formulating his thoughts.

face was turned up to Stone and the light from the mission. I am an attaché of the British Embassy in coated, smoking impatiently at his cigar and watching Washington, and by purely accidental circumstance, the elevator as its occupants came forth. which there is no need of my teiling you, I have been — One giance was sufficient for Stone. Then he rethrust into a vortex of events for which I am unfitted. turned to his room. His visitor was seated on the last giance, paused an instant and suddenly darted into the doorway. The other fellow immediately increased his speed, but being some distance behind was most vital that I should personally deliver to the conversation as if there had been no interruption. apparently uncertain of which house his quarry had British Foreign Secretary in London. This knowledge has come to another Power, which is interested in must tell me all. Your secret—is it not dangerous to After a moment's hesitation, however, he the secret which I bear. For three weeks I have vainly carry it with you?" Stone's Agitated Visitor.

Stone smiling, had runninatively lit another cigarette and was preparing to descend for the purpose of making some inquiries as to the development of the nunsual drama which had enfolded litself before his know it. The rooms in my hotel have been searched.

Stone, smiling, had runninatively lit another cigarette and was preparing to descend for the purpose of making some inquiries as to the development of the nunsual drama which had enfolded litself before his know it. The rooms in my hotel have been searched.

Stone, smiling, had runninatively lit another cigarette and delivering my message. But this has been impossible. Every moment that I have passed, waking or sleeping, I have been watched by unseen eyes. I idently into his breast pocket. There was a pause, which had enfolded litself before his know it. The rooms in my hotel have been searched.

Stone, smiling, had runninatively lit another cigarette and delivering my message. But this has been impossible. Every moment that I have passed, waking or sleeping, I have been watched by unseen eyes. I have been searched. He desired him to wait until his return.

The rooms in my hotel have been searched.

Stone hurried to a notebook in his pocket and produced it. Stone hurried up stairs to his apartment. He informed his companion of what had happened to find an opportunity of taking my passage and delivering my message. But this has been impossible. Every moment that I have passed, waking or sleeping, I have been watched by unseen eyes. I have my clothes have been ransacked, and I have been terror overspread his face. "It's gone," he gaspedconscious that for the time of which I spoke I have "gone-gone! there, standing before him as he opened it, stood the pale and apprehensive figure of the little man. He been eternally watched. A ring of men has appar-was a mild faced, frail little fellow, with large and ently surrounded me. On several occasions, too, I have most narrowly escaped being run over, and I The man's eyes had in the remainers of disancers frightened had eyes, and the his understand to a small and straw colored musiache twitched with a have suspected that these mischances were not at ment fixed upon the small table again which Stone had tremor, which was obviously quite impossible of contracting methods that the men placed the match box. The units expected upon the small table again which Stone had tremor, which was obviously quite impossible of contracting me thought to take advantage. troi. He stared at Stone for a moment in a dazed who have been tracking me thought to take advantage way, and then with a endden dash almost threw him of my presentations.

sented itself to me. I knew no one in it; I entered the still, broke in, with high excitem elevator and asked for the fourth floor as a hazard. I knew that my pursuer would follow me in. I entered it? a knock sounded on the door. A page stood there, a card extended on a silver tray.

"This gentieman to see you, sir?" said he to Stone.
But the page seemed a disquieting circumstance.

But the page seemed a disquieting circumstance.

Without a second, without a look upon the name on the card, the little man rose from his seat, and, moving over to the Adventure Hunter, took his arm with a nervous grip.

Stone regarded the man with cage rose, the with interest at this new adventure which he knew had sought him out even in his room. He felt a peculiar sympathy for the white faced little object who was obviously so unfitted for a secret mission. He understood that the circumstances must have been excep-Hunter, however, did not forget that there was an-Stone quietly closed the door, saying to the boy, who had pursued. He knew that that egent even now must be in the apartment house and waiting for the reappearance of the other. He knew that he had but What have you done?"

He had hardly spoken the words when the little to descend to the vestibule to see the man waiting for the victim he knew could not escape. And the Adman seemed suddenly to crumple in his chair. His venture Hunter had a mind to see him. However, his head went into his arms and his body was shaken by first words were those of comfort for the small diplo-

can't tell you about it"—

"I am glad you came," said he. "I know now that
Stone eyed him unwaveringly, and saw at once I can be of service to you. You may stay here. I'll evidently surrounds you may be broken and your mis-"You've got just five minutes," said he. "If you sion brought to a successful issue. In the meantime I

With a despairing gesture the small man capitu-lated, but the next moment, with a peculiar sort of dignity, he pulled himself together.

He bowed signify to his visitor and glimpse quee the door. As he opened it he caught a glimpse quee more of the haggard little figure bowed by its per-"May I trust you, sir?" he asked very seriously, plexity, of the familiar objects of his room, and last

said he. "It may even be possible that I may be of Descending by the elevator to the vestibule, it was not difficult to find whom he sought. Stone's adven-The man, however, did not seem to hear. He ap- tures into the realms of action had taught him to know his men, had taught him to know the secret agent at a "Strange as it may appear," commenced he, with a glance. And there a secret agent stood, walking about slight, rayless smile, "I am engaged upon a secret the lobby, immaculate of attire, slik hatted, frock

I bear upon my person, sir, information which it is chair in which he had left him. Stone returned to the

"Gone?" repeated Stone-but he was strangely in-I terrupted.

self upon the door, cassed it and locked it. Then he oughly, I know that they suggest me of carrying my Stone, partition he carrying and Stone, partition he carrying and should be carrying in the carrying my Stone, partition he carrying my Stone, partition in carrying and should be carrying in the carrying my Stone, partition in carrying and should be carrying in the carrying my Stone, partition in carrying my Stone, partition in carrying my Stone, partition in the carrying my Stone, partition

came along the street? Well, that's where I found it,"

man's fears, so suddenly gone, as suddenly returned. He laid his revolver on the little table and sat down,

event with another card.

"Your freeds are eager," remarked Stone, returning to his visitor. The bell boy stood near the door waiting for his answer.

"Not at home," said Stone presently. The bell boy turned and departed.

And then Valentine Stone gave himself up for twenty minutes to the pleasing entertainment of divining ways by which that silver match box, which carried in the thin, thin paper in its bottommost compared the thin, thin paper in its bottommost compared the thin, thin paper in the bottommost compared the thin, thin paper in the bottommost compared the standard of the partners of the