

SAM LOYD'S PUZZLES.

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ZOOLOGICAL ARITHMETIC



SPELL OUT THE NAMES OF THE DIFFERENT OBJECTS—THEN ADD AND SUBTRACT AS INDICATED. WHAT IS THE RESULT?

ANSWER TO SUBSTITUTION PUZZLE PRINTED MONDAY: In the sign Weith, the T is changed into G to make an appropriate title to the racing picture.

THE AMETHYST CROSS

By Fergus Hume

"My idea," said George, deliberately, "was, when I entered this room, to ask you to give me enough, as a loan, to marry Lesbia, so that I could take her to Australia or Canada and begin a new life. But now I have changed my mind, as I can guess that in some way you can arrange matters without my having to adopt such an extreme course."

"Yes," said Charvington, quietly. "I believe that I can arrange matters and in a very surprising way. They should have been arranged long ago, only for the fact that I had not the courage. It is very hard to do right sometimes. But the time has come, Mr. Walker, in three days certain people must be brought together into this room."

"What people, sir?"

"Walter Hale, and Lesbia; yourself and your mother; Mr. Jabez, the lawyer, and my wife. When we are all assembled I shall be able to straighten things out, crooked as they are at present. I ask you to see that these people—saving my wife, who will be

invited to be present—are here on the third day from now at three o'clock in the afternoon."

"And that?"

"Then you shall marry Lesbia and be happy ever afterwards. Now, go!"

George went without another word, wondering very much at the turn which events had taken. He had hoped that Charvington would arrange his destiny and that of Lesbia, but the old nobleman seemed able and ready to arrange the destiny of many other people. George could not entirely understand the meaning of Charvington's behavior, and after a few reflections did not attempt to. He decided to write a note telling Hale and Lesbia to be at the Court at the appointed time, and also to go personally to London to see Mr. Jabez and arrange for his presence. Having thus made up his mind, he went to his room and towards home, whistling with a load off his mind. In one way or another things would surely be put right.

Then came a surprise. While passing through Nightingale Thicket the young man saw Canning, looking more shadowy than ever, fitting down the road to meet him. But as the man drew nearer George saw that his usually pale face was flushed, that he was dressed spick and span as a gentleman, and that there was a general look of opulence about him. He glided up to Walker swiftly—for he appeared too unobtrusively to do anything save glide—and broke into a voluble explanation.

"Walker," he cried in loud tones which contrasted markedly with his usual whispering speech, "I came down this morning especially to see you. They told me you had gone to Charvington's place, so I crossed the river and walked in this direction on the chance of meeting you."

"What's your hurry?" asked George, surprised by this change of clothes and looks and manner.

"I am leaving England, and have come to say good-bye. Let us sit down on the grass by the roadside, no one will come along. After I have explained, I shall push on to Maidenhead and take the return train to London. From London I go to Italy. Yes, an old aunt of mine has remembered me and I have inherited two hundred a year, an annuity, the principal of which I cannot touch."

"Luckily for you," said George, taking out his pipe; "you would waste it."

"I daresay, I was always a wrong one. However, I am going to Italy, because there I can live like a fighting-cock on an income which means penury in England. I go also because Tait and Hale and the rest of them are making things too hot for me. But before departing I wanted to see you to confess."

George lighted his pipe and looked sideways in surprise. "Confess what?"

"That I assaulted you," said Canning nervously.

"You!" George glanced in amazement at the frail figure.

"Yes. Of course, I took you by surprise, or you could have knocked me into a cocked-hat. You can punch me now, Walker."

"I don't want to punch you, as you put it," said George bluntly. "Of sneaking behind me and knocking me on the head, to say nothing of tying me up. All the same—"

"I tied you up," said Canning, who had lain down and was smoking a cigarette, "because I did not wish you to recover and get back to your cottage at Medmenham until I secured the cross."

George turned indignantly. "Then you were the thief?" he declared.

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PATTERN DEPARTMENT, LONDON ADVERTISER.

"Yes," admitted Canning, coughing. "Kick me. I'll take it lying down."

"No," said George after a pause. "You have done me a service through Lesbia, by preventing the success of Maud Ellis' plot. The evil you have done is counterbalanced by the good. But how did you get me into Rose Cottage?"

Canning stood up and looked puzzled. "I didn't do that," he said earnestly. "I left you trussed on the towing-path like a fowl, and how the deuce you got into the cottage I know no more than you do. Have you never found out?"

"No," said George promptly, "but I am beginning to find out many things, and it is just possible that I may solve that riddle also. By the way, why did you sneak the amethyst cross?"

"My brother wanted it."

"Sargent?"

"Yes, Hale came down to Cookham on the evening when you proposed to Miss Hale, and told Alfred that she had given you the cross. Alfred insisted that I should rob you, and primed me with champagne to do what he wanted. I started for the cottage with a sand-bag and a rope to stun you and bind you, hoping to take you by surprise. I saw you coming along the towing-path in the twilight, and then—"

"Yes," George cut him short, "I know the rest. You crept up behind me, and stunned me and bound me, and then sneaked back to the cottage and robbed it. You are a pretty bad lot, I must say."

"I am," said Canning, languidly, "but now that I have enough to live on, I don't care to be a thief. Besides, the wolf from the door I'll reform. Besides, you can kick me, as I said."

"I don't want to, your poor devil, since you have confessed and done me a service. Why did you?"

"Because Miss Hale was the only human being who was ever kind to me," said Canning, throwing away his cigarette. "Oh, Walker, you don't know the terrible life I have led. I never was wicked, really I wasn't; only weak and easily led. I hated myself all the time I was working for Alfred and those accursed wretches he associated with. I hated all mankind, because I was treated so badly; but Miss Hale changed my nature by her kindness, and I did what I could to repay my wrong toward her and toward you because she loved you. I have confessed because I want her to know the truth. Then I pass out of her life and yours for ever. Take this address in London. Canning passed along a pencilled card, "It will find me for the next week. After that I go to Italy. Tell Miss Hale everything I have told you, and then ask her to write and say that she forgives me. I don't want her to think badly of me. I have nodded and slipped the card into his pocket, feeling very sorry for the miserable man. "Only one question I should like to ask," he said, rising from the grass. "Why did your brother want this cross?"

Lady Charvington — as I found out from overhearing a conversation between them—asked him to get it."

"Oh," George thought of the lie told by the lady as to the cross having been found by her in the library, "and why did she want it?"

"Ask her, Good-bye just now. And Walker, my dear fellow," he added, "one last word. Maud Ellis and Hale are plotting to get that money which should come to your mother. Go—bye!" and he disappeared down the road—withdrawal swiftly like a receding mist. That was the last George saw of Arthur Sargent, alias Canning, alias The Shadow.

CHAPTER XXII.

The Plot.

But that Canning fairly ran away, George would have stopped him to ask further questions. He had told much that was new and strange, and which explained a great deal; but his last remark hinted at further difficulties.

Apparently Hale had not yet given up all idea of procuring the money, although how he hoped to do so in the absence of the child, George could not understand. Of course, Walker felt very certain that Hale had kept back the amethyst cross when sending the jewels to Lady Charvington, but the production by Hale would have no effect on Mr. Jabez. The lawyer wanted the cross to be produced by the child of Katherine Morse—whatever her married name might be, and according to Hale himself, the dying woman had no child. Mrs. Walker indeed had stated that her sister had written about a sick child, but this had probably died. If not, surely during all these twenty years the child would have come forward to recover its inheritance.

George was naturally puzzled with this new development and decided that to learn the truth it would be best to go to the fountain head. That is, if Hale intended to use the cross to procure the money he would have to produce it to Mr. Jabez in his Lincoln's Inn Fields office. It was thus best to go at once to Mr. Jabez and inform him of what Canning had said about this new plot. What Maud Ellis had to do with the matter it was impossible to say. George could no more understand her connection with the matter than he could understand why Lady Charvington had employed Captain Sargent to get the cross. What possible interest could she have in the amethyst cross? And why had she told a deliberate lie as to its being in the library? George was quite bewildered with the complicated side of affairs. And Mr. Jabez, as he believed, alone could solve the mystery.

George duly gave his mother Lord Charvington's message. She received it in silence, but with a change of color, which did not escape his notice.

"Mother," he asked abruptly, "what do you know about Lord Charvington?"

"He was not Lord Charvington when I knew him," confessed Mrs. Walker, after a pause, "but Philip Hale, as you know, is the family name, and Lesbia's father bears it as a cousin. Charvington had not come into the title twenty and more years ago. I knew him very well and liked him," she sighed, "but he was always weak."

George looked incredulous. "Weak," he echoed; "he seems to me to be a very strong man and one who knows his own mind."

"He has no doubt learned by experience," replied Mrs. Walker, "and heaven only knows how badly he needed to learn. So he is going to speak at last. He should have done so long ago. About what, mother?"

Mrs. Walker pursed up her mouth. "Never mind, George. I prefer that Lord Charvington should tell his own story. If he does, Walter Hale will

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find himself in trouble, and I shall be glad of it. I have waited long to see him punished; soon I shall be satisfied."

"Why do you hate Hale so, mother?"

"I have every cause to hate him," cried Mrs. Walker vindictively, and her eyes glittered. "Years ago I loved Walter Hale."

"You loved that man?" said her son slowly.

"What is there strange in that?" snapped his mother, trying to keep her restless hands still. "He was handsome and clever and rich. I loved him and I thought that he loved me. I gave him my heart, and found out only too late that he was playing with me. He was always cruel, and wicked, and hard, selfish to the core, and thinking only of himself. We were engaged," added Mrs. Walker, drooping her head, and in a lower tone, "and he confessed then that he had very little money. He believed that I was an heiress, and so I was to the extent of fifty thousand pounds. My father did not like him, and declared that if I married Walter he would cut me off with a shilling. I did not care, for I loved the man for his money, and when he learned my father's decision he threw me over and went after some other woman who was rich."

To Be Continued.

LAYMEN VICE-CHAIRMEN

Heads of Movement in Various Provinces Elected at Toronto.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—Further improvement to the organization of the laymen's missionary movement in Canada was made in the election of officers by the Canadian council at its annual luncheon in the dining-rooms of the Robert Simpson Company yesterday, when for the first time vice-chairmen were appointed for the various provinces in the Dominion. The election resulted as follows:

Chairman, Mr. N. W. Rowell, K.C., Toronto; vice-chairman, Mr. J. N. Shuter, Toronto; acting secretary, Mr. A. E. Armstrong, Toronto. Province vice-chairmen—Ontario, Mr. E. J. B. Birks, Kingston; Quebec, Mr. W. B. Birks, Montreal; Nova Scotia, Mr. H. S. Fleming, Halifax; New Brunswick, Mr. T. S. Simons, St. John; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Mr. G. R. Crowe, Winnipeg; Alberta and British Columbia, Hon. Mr. W. H. Cushing, Calgary.

The appointment of a field secretary for Canada, still under consideration by the councils, and it is expected a selection will be announced within a week or two.

TOO MUCH PROTECTION

For Trusts in U. S., Says Leading Western Manufacturer.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Referring to over a dozen "trusts" in his arguments for tariff reduction, Herbert E. Miles of Racine, Wis., chairman of the tariff committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, was the principal witness before the House ways and means committee yesterday. He was on the stand five hours, and will appear again today.

He was severely questioned by Republicans and Democrats alike, and his remarks caused considerable discussion of the attitude of the political parties in respect to tariff revision. He compared the prices of certain articles which represented the labor cost with the percentage of protection afforded these articles by the tariff.

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Mr. Miles contended that the oil, steel, brass goods, car builders, locomotive, farming tool, lined oil, lead, sugar, tobacco, glucose, chemical, rubber goods, meat, leather and lumber, so-called trusts, received protection that is much too great in comparison to the labor cost of their products.

THE DELAWARE A. Y. P. A.

Regular Meeting of the Society—An Interesting Debate.

Delaware, Dec. 7.—at the regular meeting of the Delaware A. Y. P. A., held at the home of Mr. James Harris on Thursday evening, the vice-president, Mr. A. Trumper, presided, and the proceedings opened with prayer.

It was decided that the A. Y. P. A. should unite with the Sunday school in giving an entertainment to be held on the 15th of January.

The programme for the evening then followed, which was a debate on the proposition: "That It Is More Profitable To Be Master of One Trade Than Jack of All Trades."

Mr. Frank Weld, assisted by Mr. A. Trumper, took the affirmative.

Mrs. H. J. Trumper, assisted by Miss R. Garnett, took the negative.

When the leaders had finished the debate was open to the meeting. Mr. R. Garnett and Mr. H. D. Johnstone spoke fluently, but failed to influence the meeting, as the decision was in favor of the negative.

There were fourteen members present, and one new member was enrolled. The proceedings closed with prayer. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. J. R. Hammond on Dec. 16.

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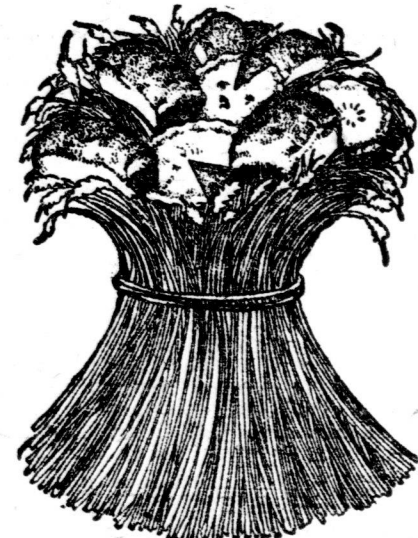
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