

# "The Shadow"

By ARTHUR STRINGER

(Continued from yesterday.)

He would have been able to maintain the myth which had grown up about him, the myth of his great cleverness and personal courage. He showed a tendency for the more turbulent characters. He went about with a gun, without a gun. He dropped into dives, protected by nothing more than the tradition of his office. His position was a way in through which he picked out his man, and told him to come to Headquarters in an hour's time—and the man usually came. His appetite for the spectacular increased. He preferred to head his own gambling raids, as in hand. But more even than his authority he liked to parade his force. He liked to see his men in uniform, trooping in for their daily list of news, he asked them, as usual, not to come to his office with the incident; and they, as usual, made him the hero of the occasion.

For Never-Fall Blake had made it a point to be good to the press boys. He acquired an ability to "jolly" them without too obvious loss of dignity. He took them into his confidence, apparently, and made his disclosures personal matters, individual favors. He kept careful note of their names, their characteristics, their interests. He cultivated them, keeping as careful track of them from city to city as he did of the "big" criminals themselves. They got into the habit of going to him for their special stories. He always exacted secrecy, pretended reluctance, yet passed out to one reporter and another those dicta to which his name could be most appropriately attached. He even surrounded a clue or two, and he was not to be approached by any of the press boys. He worked into a given story. When he perceived that those worldly-wise young men of the press were through the dodges, he became more adept, more adroit, more delicate in method. But the end was the same.

It was about this time that he was involved in his first scrap-book. Into this secret granary went every seed of his printed personal history. There came the higher records of the press, the illustrated articles written about "Blake, the Hamard of America," as one of them expressed it, and "Never-Fall Blake," as another put it. He was very proud of those magazine articles, he even made ponderous and painstaking efforts for their reputation, at considerable loss of sleep. He was very proud of those magazine articles, he even made ponderous and painstaking efforts for their reputation, at considerable loss of sleep.

But the scrap-books grew in number and size. It became a task to keep up with his clippings. He developed into a personage, as much a personage as a grand opera. His persona, or four. His successes were talked over in clubs. His name came to be known to the men in the street. His "cameras" were everywhere. He was mentioned by the name of "Blake" in an occasional editorial. When an ex-policeman reporter came to him, asking him to furnish a "corroborative" volume bearing the title "Criminals of America," Blake not only added his name to the title page, but advanced the fee to the publisher to assist towards its launching.

The result of all this was a subtle but unmistakable shifting of values, an achievement of public esteem at the loss of official confidence. He excused his waning popularity among his co-workers on the ground that he was being persecuted by the inevitable penalty for supreme success in any field. But a hint would come, now and then, that troubled him. "You think you're the king of the law," he would say to him, "but if you were on my side of the fence, you'd last about as long as a snowball on a crowsfoot!"

CHAPTER III.  
It was not until the advent of Copeland, the new First Deputy, that Blake began to suspect his own position. Copeland was an out-and-out law man, a "flat-foot." Weak, lacking and pallid, with the sedate air of a junior clerk, vibrating restlessness with the penetrating force of a penetrator, he was of that indeterminate type which never seems to acquire a personality of its own. The small and bony and metallic, he was as neutral as the spare and reticent figure that sat before a bald table in a bald room as an inexpressive and reticent as its occupant. Copeland was not only unknown outside the Department; he was, in a way, unknown in his own official circles.

And then Blake woke up to the fact that some one on the inside was working against him, was blocking his moves, was actually using him as a "blind." While he was slow, the "old" Blake, younger man went out on the "hot" ones. There were times when the Second Deputy suspected that his enemy was Copeland. Not that he could be sure of this, for Copeland himself gave no inkling of his attitude. He gave no inkling of anything, in fact, personal or impersonal. But more and more Blake was given the feeling that the role of spokesman to the press. He was more and more pointed in the background, the artillery, to intimidate with his remote thunder and cover the advance of more agile columns. He was encouraged to tell the public what he knew, but he was not allowed to know too much, and, ironically, enough, he bitterly resented this role of "mouthpiece" for the Department.

"You call yourself a gun!" a patrolman who had been shaken down for extortion broke out at him. "A gun? Why, you're only a park guard. All you are is a broken-down, ornamental policeman, a park guard for hire to play round."

Blake roared at that, impotently, shaking the air in old time with his clenched fist. He provided modestly against his anger. But he could find

no tangible force that opposed him. He could see nothing on which to centralize his activity. Yet something or somebody was working against him. To fight that opposition was like fighting a fog. It was as bad as trying to shoulder back a shadow.

He had his own "spots" and "finds" on the force. When he had been tipped off that the powers above were about to send him out on the Binhart case, he passed the word along to his subordinates without loss of time, for he felt that he was about to be put on trial, that they were making the Binhart capture a test case. And he had rejoiced mightily when his dream had brought up the unexpected tip that Elsie Verrier had been in recent communication with Binhart, and that, without loss of time, the right quarter could be made to talk.

This tip had been a secret one. Blake, on his part, kept it well wrapped up in the fact that his capture of Binhart should be not only a personal triumph for the Second Deputy, but a vindication of that Second Deputy's methods. He was not to be outdone.

So when the Commissioner called him and Copeland into conference, the day after his talk with Elsie Verrier, Blake looked at Copeland, who did the talking. Copeland, as usual, lapsed into the background, cracking his dry knuckles, and blinking his pale blue eyes about the room as the voices of the two larger men boomed back and forth.

"We've been going over this Binhart case," began the Commissioner. "It's seven months now—and nothing done!"

Blake looked sideways at Copeland. There was a muffled and meditative behavior in the look. There was also a gratification for it was the move he had been expecting.

"I always said McCooey wasn't the man to go out on that case," said the Second Deputy, still watching Copeland.

"Then who is the man?" asked the Commissioner.

Blake took out a cigar, bit the end off, and struck a match. It was out of place; but it was a sign of his independence. He had long since given up plugging, Copeland, as usual, took to him, and he smoked audibly, in plethoric wheezes. Good living had left his body stout and his breathing slightly asthmatic. He sat looking down at his massive knees; his oblique study of Copeland, apparently, had yielded him scant satisfaction.

Copeland, in fact, was making paper fans out of the official newspaper in front of him.

"What's the matter with Washington and Willie?" inquired Blake, at last, testily regarding his cigar.

"They're just where we are—at a standstill," acknowledged the Commissioner.

"And that's where we'll stay!" heavily contended the Second Deputy. The entire situation was an indolently flattering one to Blake. Every one else had failed. They were compelled to come to him, their final resource.

"Why?" demanded his superior. "Because we haven't got a man who can turn the trick? We haven't got a man who can go out and round up Binhart in seven years?"

"Then what is your suggestion?" he was Copeland who spoke, mild and hesitating.

"D'you want my suggestion?" demanded Blake, warm with the wine-like knowledge which he knew, made him master of the situation.

"Of course," was the Commissioner's curt response.

"Well, you've got to have a man who knows Binhart, who knows him, and his tricks and his hang outs!"

"Well, who does?"

"I do," declared Blake. The Commissioner indulged in his watery smile.

"You mean if you weren't tied down to your Second Deputy's chair you could go out and get him?"

"Could!"

"Within a reasonable length of time?"

"I don't know about the time! But I could get him, all right, on the outside work!"

"I certainly wouldn't expect to see him out of my stamp office," was Blake's heavily sarcastic retort.

"You know what my feeling is," declared Blake.

"What?"

"That the right method would've got him in six months ago, without all this monkey work!"

"Then why not end the monkey work, as you call it?"

"How'm I going to hold down a chair and hunt a crook at the same time?"

"Then why hold down the chair?"

the middle of July, while the entire building will be finished by the first of October.

Tribute to Late Sheriff.  
In the police court yesterday morning Hon. R. J. Ritchie expressed deep regret on hearing of the sudden death of High Sheriff S. E. deForest. He referred to him in the following words: "The late S. E. deForest was a worthy son of a very respectable merchant in this city. He was a man of integrity and was honored and respected by all classes. I have known him ever since he was a boy and regret very much to learn of his death. In his dealings with the court he was always kind and courteous and will be greatly missed."

OBITUARY.  
Mrs. Elizabeth Wiggins.  
Johnston, Queens Co., Mar. 7.—The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Wiggins, widow of James B. Wiggins of Johnston, and daughter of the late Robert Orchard, occurred on March 7th. Deceased had passed away after two days' illness of an acute attack of pleurisy. She was 66 years of age and highly respected by all who knew her.

She leaves to mourn a loving husband and eleven children, five sons and six daughters. The sons are: Elmer of Vancouver, B. C.; Edward of Johnston, N.B.; and Ray of Arizona, Charles and Arnold of Waterbury, H. Wiggins of Princeton, Mass.; Mrs. Arthur Warden, of Johnston; Mrs. William Canada, of Waterbury; Mrs. Lea Kelly of Cambridge; Mrs. Hazel, Lynn, and Beatrice at home. She also leaves 36 grandchildren.

AVOID LA GRIPPE  
Buy your rubbers at unheard of prices at Bassett's, 297 Union street, between House block, and 14 Charlotte street.

Carleton Fire Alarm.  
About 1.30 yesterday afternoon the West Side fire department was called out to a fire in the house occupied by Isaac Ketchum in Water street. A fire started in a clothes basket when a spark fell from the stove pipe. The fire was put out before much damage was done. The department were also called out Tuesday evening by a still alarm from King street, but there was practically no fire.

MAILED CONTRACT.  
SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 13th May, 1914, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, two times per week each way, between Gaspereaux and Lakestream, from the 1st July next.

Information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Office of the Postmaster General, at the Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector, St. John, N. B., March 3rd, 1914.

SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST MINING REGULATIONS.  
COAL.—Coal mining rights may be leased for twenty years, renewable for ten years. A lease for more than 2,500 acres can be leased to one applicant. Royalty, five cents per ton, in advance, to be paid to the landowner. The applicant must be a Canadian citizen or a person at the time of application. The lease must be staked out by the applicant in accordance with the regulations. The lease must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application. The lease must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application.

QUARTZ.—A person eighteen years of age or over, having made a claim, may locate a claim 1,000 feet by 1,000 feet. The claim must be staked out by the applicant in accordance with the regulations. The claim must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application. The claim must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application.

PLACER MINING CLAIMS are 600 feet long and 300 feet wide. The claim must be staked out by the applicant in accordance with the regulations. The claim must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application. The claim must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application.

DREDGING.—Two leases of five miles each of a river may be made to one applicant for a term of 99 years. The lease must be staked out by the applicant in accordance with the regulations. The lease must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application. The lease must be paid to the landowner in full at the time of application.

DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.  
N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

NOTICE OF LEGISLATION.  
Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick at its next session, for the passage of a Bill or "To vest the property and trusts of Masonic Bodies in Corporations and to provide for the dissolution of the same."

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NOTICE.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made by the Council of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick at its next session to amend the New Brunswick Medical Act so as to increase the fees on Matriculation Examinations to \$15.00; the fees on Final Examinations to \$40.00, and the Registration Fee to \$30.00. Also to permit one payment of \$20.00 in lieu of the Annual Registration Fee of \$10.00. Dated the 10th day of February, 1914.

POWELL & HARRISON, Solicitors for Applicants.

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