

Black Book of Crooks

SCOTLAND YARD'S GALLERY OF SWINDLERS.

Few people are aware that Scotland Yard maintains a wonderful "Black Book" to the criminal world—a veritable "Who's Who" to the personal life of modern crooks. Amazing though it is, however, there are still a few portraits the authorities would be glad to include.

Compiled by the record keepers in the department, the book has proved a priceless asset in checking the marauding activities of many men and women who are known by the police of every civilized country to live on their wits.

Men and women known as "international" crooks number at least five thousand, and in this "Who's Who of Crime" they appear with complete and intimate details as to age, height, colour of hair, eyes and complexion,

aliases, speciality and methods, together with photographs and fingerprints.

Fearful Adventures.

This wonderful book has already come to be dreaded by adventurers and adventuresses who have an international reputation. For it is only by a fluke that they are able to get into the country, as the main ports are closely watched by detectives, to whom the notabilities of the international underworld are well known.

The principal difficulty that always faces the police in dealing with the crook invasion is that new recruits are constantly being added to the ranks of crime. Until these make a slip no information regarding them is in the possession of the authorities, and some of them are so cunning that they not infrequently enjoy a good run before they can be indexed and given their rightful place in the book. It is a remarkable fact that the perpetrators of one of the cleverest of confidence tricks do not yet figure in the "Black Book."

There are few cleverer criminals operating in London, for this ruse—the "rosary" trick—seldom seems to fail. It was tried successfully only a short time ago on a rich Australian who was staying at a fashionable hotel and eventually "came to earth" when he realized that he had been robbed of £1,000.

Detectives with special knowledge of "con" men and their ways have hunted in all directions, but so far have been unable to lay their hands on either the rascal with the rosary or his confederates.

None of these is known at the "Yard," and it is believed they have only recently embarked on their career of crime. Once they were within an ace of downfall, but left hurriedly for Paris in time to avoid capture. They were not deterred, however, by this narrow escape, and within a few weeks returned to London, where they quickly claimed another victim.

Another type of crook whose identity has not yet been established by the police is the pocket-slasher. A member of this fraternity brought off a coup only a few days ago, his victim being an Irish motor engineer, who came to London from Belfast with sufficient bank-notes in his pocket to pay for a motor-car he had ordered from a West-end firm.

In order to avoid any possible risk of loss, he had the notes tied up in a handkerchief, which he carried in his hip pocket.

Bewildered by his surroundings, he approached a stranger, who, with a disarming affability, pointed out that by a coincidence he himself happened to be going in the same direction.

It was during the morning rush hour, and the two men soon found themselves struggling to enter a Tube train. In the process they became separated, and the Irish visitor was considerably disturbed on reaching his destination to find that he was not only miles away from the place he wanted, but also that his pocket containing £426 in notes had been cut away. He reported his loss to the police, but no trace of the thief has been discovered.

Brief Facts About Mary Pickford and Little Annie Rooney

Mary Pickford, foremost cinema artiste, in her forthcoming screen feature, "Little Annie Rooney," has stepped out of the costume drama role and back into the ragamuffin, hoydenish, comedy characterization that so endeared her to the public and won for her the title "The World's Sweetheart."

"Little Annie Rooney," is nearing completion for early fall release through United Artists Corporation.

The scenes for the most part are laid in the teeming lower East Side district of New York, and the famous old Brooklyn Bridge has an important role.

Little Annie Rooney is the twelve year old daughter of a New York policeman; leads a band of street urchins in fiercely contended, rough and tumble, biting and kicking battles with rival gangs; and is secretly and madly in love with a strapping truck driver, the pal of her big brother, Tim.

Her garb consists of cheap calicoes, much-darned stockings, down-at-the-heel shoes, and, sometimes, a boy's cap.

Ten different nationalities and races are represented among the kid types in the two score or so youngsters figuring in the picture. There also are many animals—dogs, and cats, a goat, a pig and a couple of horses.

Lower East Side New York streets and districts faithfully are reproduced in the picture. There are streets and alleyways littered with old tin cans and all sorts of rubbish. Almost all of the picture was made at the Pickford-Fairbanks studio, Hollywood.

VACATION TIME.

Some are going to the mountains, some are going to the shore, some are going where the fountain squirts ice-water evermore; a few away the fields are greener and the atmosphere is cleaner, and you get a better wiener for your money at the store. Hope's transfiguring our faces, for vacation time is nigh, and we'll seek the open spaces underneath a smokeless sky, where the freckles and whitecombs, where are not longed with diseases, where each prospect cheers and pleases while the golden moments fly. Let us not forget, however, that the open spaces hold many insects smooth and clever, many bugs severe and bold; there the hornets off are winging, and the humble bees are stinging, and mosquito hosts are singing melodies we knew of old. Let us pack our old valises with such salves as granny made, with such unguents and ointments as will make a swelling fester, have an extra mustard plaster to provide against disaster, and a poultice that will master sprain or leg or shoulderblade. Foolish is

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NEXT WEEK:—THE PICTURE REVELATION

Flaming Youth

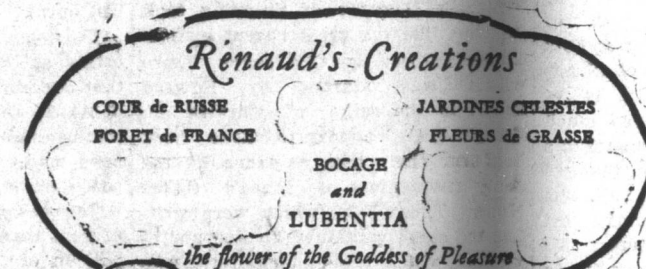
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the man who throttles prudent promptings ere he goes, who neglects to take in bottles liniments and things like those; who is shy of healing lotions, who is not supplied with potions when he goes to see the oceans and the mountains capped with snows. For the glad free open spaces are the home of biting things; there the fierce sidewinder chases, and the hornets ply their stings; and the man who takes a

wagon full of dope in far and flagon circumvents the bug and dragon, and he dances and he sings.

Fads and Fashions

In the millinery world, a new crocheted straw is beginning to rival felt. The little cretonne coat with Chin-

ese color is delightful for sports wear. The skirt of the dance frock is apt to be cut in petals or fluttering points.

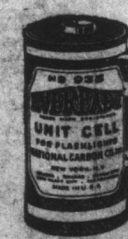
Chinese influence is seen in some of the new bathing suits and beach costumes.

Lace frocks, wore over colored underslips, are beltless, but feature the godet.

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