

WILL WOMEN EVER LEARN TO BE PUNCTUAL?

WHO PLAYED THE JOKE?

WITH FACE RED AND PERSPIRING A SISTER DASHED FROM HER QUARTERS TO THE HOSPITAL. SHE DIDN'T RUN OR AT LEAST SHE COULDN'T. HER PACE WAS SOMETHING BETWEEN A DOUBLE SHUFFLE AND A ROLL, BUT SHE MADE GOOD TIME, SCORNING THE ELEVATOR SHE TOOK THE STAIRS THREE STEPS AT A TIME AND ARRIVED ON DUTY "LATE" - NOT TWO OR EVEN FIVE MINUTES LATE - BUT ALL THE SAME "LATE" THE ACCUSING HANDS ON HER WATCH TOLD 'A WHOLE HALF HOUR - AND A SUMMONS TO THE MATRON'S OFFICE CONFIRMED THE HORRIBLE FACT. DOWN SHE WENT - STOPPED OUTSIDE THE DOOR TO DRY HER EYES - THEN WENT IN. SHE CAME OUT WITH A VERY FULL REALIZATION OF THE ENORMITY OF HER CRIME STAGGERED BACK TO HER WARD, SAT DOWN WRINGING HER HANDS AND BEMOANING HER FATE. SHE WENT

ABOUT HER WORK AS IF IN A TRANCE, HER FACE WHITE AND SET - HER EYES STARING - SUDDENLY SHE STOPPED, TURNED AND WENT OVER TO THE TELEPHONE - REACHED FOR THE RECEIVER - LISTENED



A MINUTE - ANSWERED "YES MATRON" - AND MADE HER WAY DOWN TO THE OFFICE AGAIN. THE MATRON, RATHER MYSTIFIED DENIED HAVING SENT FOR HER - SO THE POOR GIRL HAD NO OTHER COURSE BUT TO BACK OUT, COVERED WITH CONFUSION. IT WAS LATER PROVED BY EMINENT PSYCHOLOGISTS THAT THE TELEPHONE CALL WAS A HALLUCINATION, CAUSED BY INTENSE REMORSE - BUT THE SISTER IS STILL CONVINCED THAT THE TELEPHONE DID RING - "POOR MISS CONLIN"

