Danger Lurks In

"THREE SHUTTERED HOUSES"

BY BEN AMES WILLIAMS

STANDING by themselves on Kenesaw Hill, three dilapidated mansions cast an evil shadow of gloom over the surrounding countryside. Sprawling old houses, they were sinister and darkly foreboding.

Inside one of them lived pretty June Leaford, surrounded by taciturn, close-mouthed relatives, one of whom was a maniacal murderer, cleverly striking at those who stood in the way.

The ultimate solving of the mystery by two of fiction's best known characters, Inspector Tope and Miss Moss, is one of Ben Ames Williams' most thrilling stories. How they are helped in the solution of the crime by Clint Jervies, in love with June, is one of the heart-warming features of the detective tale.

You'll be completely engrossed by "Three Shuttered Houses."

SERIALLY IN THIS PAPER

N E W S

Boiled Down for You

Millions of words are printed each day to give the reading public a knowledge of national and world affairs. News pages, sports pages, financial pages, editorial pages—all are designed to inform the reader. Obviously it is impossible to assimilate all this information. There is too much of it for daily absorption. Today's important, far-reaching story may be forgotten tomorrow.

Our WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS gives you a condensed interpretation of national and world events. It is a forceful, timely feature which eliminates the trivial and explains the important news of the week. We believe that no paper can offer its readers a better foundation for intelligent discussion of today's history in the making.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

PRISONER ESCAPES!

GUARD KILLED BY BRITISH OFFICER IN DARING ESCAPE FROM GERMAN PRISON CAMP

Hunted by all the police in Germany, he found refuge in the heart and home of this lovely little girl of the Berlin streets... Calmly, bravely she faced the police and lied for him—lied for an enemy of her country whom she had known but one short night... Not even the threats of certain death could break her devoted loyalty to him.

You'll be held breathless by this exciting story of escape from a German prison camp. You'll be thrilled and fascinated by this romantic girl who took chances to hold the only tender, sincere love ever she knew...No wonder the late O. O. McIntyre called it "The most absorbing book I've read in five years."

Because we want you to know Mercury Books, we'll send you this one—"Everything Is Thunder", by J. L. Hardy—practically FREE. We'll supply the book, if you'll pay 10c for postage and handling.

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MERCURY BOOKS, 570 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y.

The seahorse uses its long tail to hitch itself to seaweed or coral.

Room Bureaus Set Up For New York Fair

NEW YORK *(Special)*—Two agencies have been set up in New York City to insure World's Fair visitors' getting living accommodations at a most reasonable price.

One is the Mayor's Official World's Fair Housing Bureau, Inc., with headquarters in the Chanin Building, 122 East 42d Street, set up by Mayor LaGuardia to locate rooms for visitors in private homes and dwellings.

The other is the Hotel Room Information Bureau of the Hotel Association of New York City, representing 180 hotels with a total capacity of 80,000 rooms. The bureau is at association headquarters, 221 West 57th Street.

Both agencies function without any charge to the visitor in finding him clean and comfortable accommodations at a price within his means. Rooms in private dwellings range in price from $1 per night per person upward, with the average per person $1.50.

Every Western Union and Postal Telegraph office is equipped to handle requests for rooms in conjunction with the Housing Bureau's operation. Every policeman in New York City is familiar with the plan and is equipped to give visitors first hand information on methods of obtaining registered and sponsored rooms.

On making the application for a room the visitor pays a deposit of 50 cents per night per person for which he receives a receipt. The receipt may be presented to the landlord in lieu of cash as part payment for the room.

Fair Ice Ballerina

NEW YORK *(Special)*—Erna Andersen, Norwegian skating champion and star of the ice show at Sun Valley in the Amusement Area of the New York World's Fair, illustrates her prowess as a figure skater.

'New Deal' Isn't New

General Sherman, not the Roosevelt administration, invented the political use of "new deal," but Sherman's phrase was not capitalized, according to the sixth section of the new American English dictionary. Sherman's "Letters," written back in 1863, first used the combination in this comment: "Charleston is not taken, the war is prolonged, and but little chance of its ending until we have a new deal." The sixth section of the dictionary, published by the University of Chicago Press, will appear soon. It comprises words of strictly American origin, slang and colloquial expressions and mutations of the mother tongue. Starting with "corn pit," the section ends with "dew."

The shipbuilding industry in America makes rowboats and canoes at a rate of a dollar's worth of building—every minute.

Little-Known Mammals Roam High in Rockies

High up in the Rockies and allied ranges, where winter is long and the short summer is a season of wondrous loveliness, live some of America's least-known smaller mammals. They are little known because they live in a land of seven or eight months of winter and are buried from sight most of this time, writes Hamilton M. Laing in "Nature Magazine."

In the mountain parks the visitor is sure to get acquainted with the larger mammals: bear, deer, sheep, goat—the obvious; he is likely to see much less of the smaller, humbler folk; whistling marmot, pika, Columbian and golden-mantled ground squirrels, and chipmunk. These inhabitants of the rockslides and meadows at the feet of the high crags are the kings of the skyline, and such little creatures tell a chapter of natural history quite as interesting as any chapter from the lives of big game.

Where the disintegrating cliffs break off abruptly and, yielding to the wear of time, drop their fragments upon the slowly accumulating talus, there are built the castles that are home to these little kings of the high places. Usually the debris fills a draw or head of a ravine, where on either side, with the passing of the snows in mid-summer, the lush alpine vegetation springs to life to paint the slopes.

Most of the small mammal residents here are vegetarians, and they have the two main necessaries that go to make life for them worth living; food and shelter. The vegetation here during its short life at from four to seven thousand feet is luscious and abundant; the shelter is ample and substantial—the rocks in a slide usually running the gamut of size from a bun to a box-car.

Sociologists Make Study of Personal Predictions

Persons living normal routine lives are unable to predict with any degree of accuracy what they will be doing at a given time on the following day. Increasing inaccuracy mark the predictions for a two-day forecast; for a month ahead the error is still larger. These facts were brought out in an investigation into the predictability of human behavior made by Dr. Pitirim A. Sorokin, professor of sociology, and Dr. Clarence Q. Berger, at Harvard university. The subjects investigated were 103 WPA white collar workers from 17 to 50 years of age, the majority of them females between 20 and 30.

Each individual was required to make a complete forecast of their activity for the given days on a time schedule basis. When these were checked against the actual activities of those days it was found that for the next succeeding day they deviated from the time schedule by an average of 305 minutes; and for the second day following by 353 minutes. When the forecast was for a business day a month ahead the error was 494 minutes, and for a month ahead on a Sunday the error was largest—536 minutes.

Dr. Sorokin and Dr. Berger, presenting these results in their book, "Time Budgets and Human Behavior," state as their conclusion that the less stable the social conditions the greater becomes the error of prediction. Women, they found, erred more than men; the younger groups more than the older; single men more than married. The lower income classes erred more than the higher.

Mathematical Prize Goes Begging

Dr. Paul Wolfskehl of Darmstadt, Germany, who died in 1907, provided in his will for the award of 100,000 marks to the mathematician who would solve Fermat's theorem. Fermat, a Seventeenth century mathematician, wrote his famous theory in the margin of an algebra, thus: "If n is greater than 2 there are no whole numbers a, b and c such that $a^n+b^n=c^n$. I have found a truly wonderful proof which this margin is too small to contain." Almost every mathematician worth his salt has tried to prove the theorem. According to Dr. J. Barkely Rosser (Cornell), the theorem has been proved for all values of n less than 617.

Navy Dental Requirements

In order to be eligible for enlistment in the navy an applicant must have at least 20 vital serviceable teeth and of these not less than four opposed incisors, of which two are directly opposed on each side of the median line, and four opposed molars, of which two are directly opposed on each side of the dental arch. Teeth properly filled or which have been properly restored by crowns may be considered serviceable when the history and appearance clearly warrant such consideration.

German Silver

German silver is an alloy composed of copper, zinc and nickel, in proportions varying according to the purpose of its use. When intended to replace silver it contains copper, 50 parts, zinc, 25 parts, and nickel, 25 parts. This alloy is harder than silver and capable of taking a high polish. It is used as a substitute for silver in making bells, candlesticks and various utensils, and more especially as a foundation metal in the manufacture of silver-plated ware.

WHY SOCK THE MOTORIST?

Highway users taxes made direct contributions to State Treasuries in the fiscal years of 1938 totaling $1,177,010,000, according to the ofcial statement of the United States Public Road Administration. State gasoline taxes accounted for $771,764,000, motor vehicle fees were $388,825,000 and motor carriers taxes brought in $16,421,000. These funds were distributed for state highway puroses, streets and roads, parks and forests. There was an expenditure of $158,284,000, that went to relief, education and general funds. The Government bulletin did not indicate how much of this sum was a "diverson" of highway taxes.

But the Automobile Manufacturers Association clears that up somewhat with statistics showing that "one out of every eight automobile tax dollar is used for nonhighway purposes." The same source shows the gradual increase of the State tax on gasoline, with Florida, Louisiana and Tennessee charging 7 cents a gallon. Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, N. Carolina and S. Carolina tax gasoline 6 cents per gallon. The minimum rate in states is 3 cents in California, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Dakota and Rhode Island.

The story of taxes on the big business of highways shows such tremendous totals as to bring them in a competitive class with the rates imposed upon liquor and cigarettes. Why should automobiles be taxed in that proportion?

TURKEYS WORTH SEVENTY MILLION PRODUCED

Nearly 70 million dollars' worth of turkeys (at farm prices) were produced last year, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This figure was somewhat less than for 1937, but was larger than in any other year in the current decade, and probably the second largest in the history of the industry.

Since 1929, the production of turkeys has increased more than 56 per cent—from less than 17 million birds in that year to more than 26 million birds in 1938. Peak production during the decade was nearly 28 million turkeys in 1936. Highest prices during the 10-year period were in 1939, lowest in 1933. The 1938 average—$2.66 per bird—was about 16 per cent lower than in 1929.

Principal turkey-producing states in 1938 were: Texas (3,285,000 birds), California (2,625,000), Minnesota (2,145,000), Oklahoma (1,418,000), Iowa (1,386,000), North Dakota (1,265,000), and Oregon (1,265,000). About 40 per cent of the 1938 crop was raised in the 12 North Central States as contrasted with only 30 per cent in 1929.

Expansion of the turkey industry during the last 10 years is attributed chiefly to improvements in production and management methods, which have lessened the mortality of poults and lowered production costs in competition with chickens and other meats. Production of turkeys in small farm flocks has decreased in most areas, but this has been more than offset by increased numbers of large flocks which are kept separate from other poultry and handled under improved methods of sanitation, feeding, and marketing.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Christ Jesus" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, August 27.

The Golden Text will be from John 1:14, "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible, Isa. 52:7: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings; that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good; that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion thy God reigneth."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 29, "The illumination of Mary's spiritual sense put to silence material law and its order of generation, and brought forth her child by the revelation of Truth, demonstrating God as the Father of men."

Minnesota, with one of the Nation's most efficient systems for popular education, spends $100 every time one minute goes by—on that system.

Although a man may acknowledge that he has faults he seldom owns up to those his friends accuse him of.

Every minute, as is happening while you read this column, $5 worth of ice cream is prepared in powder form.

When big business men in a boss-ridden city don't complain about taxes, it means they get a share of the loot.

Marking on glass or vitreous enamel is reported possible with a new type of marking ink.

CHANGE IN SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

A change in the Social Security Act which was enacted into law during the recent session of Congress, will be of great benefit to insured workers who now approaching age 65, according to Mr. Becker, field manager of the Baltimore office of the Social Security Board. Instead of one lump-sum payment of old-age insurance which the government has paid heretofore to insured workers who reach age 65, a monthly benefit will be provided after January 1, 1940, for qualified workers who attain age 65. Consequently, the Social Security Board is no longer accepting these "live claims" or "attainment claims" as they are called.

Mr. Becker said that 6,255 claims for old-age insurance payments amounting to $318,808.70 have been paid by the Social Security Board in the State during the past 2½ years. About 40% of the claimants were men and women who had reached age 65 after participating in the old-age insurance program. Now, under the revised program, insured workers who reach age 65 and who meet the requirements have an apportunity to get a lifetime monthy benefit.

Termination of the payment of lump-sum benefits to 65-year old workers is the only change in the Social Security Act which became effective when the President signed the bill August 11. Other amendments will go into effect January 1, 1940.

Monthly benefits will become payable in 1940 instead of 1942 as scheduled under the original law. Survivors of deceased workers who are entitled to lump-sum benefits may continue to file claims for payment of old-age insurance.

PLAN FOR WHEAT

Today virtually every important wheat producing nation in the world has a "plan for wheat." Together, governments are spending more than two billion dollars annually to keep wheat production down and wheat prices up.

The results have been hardly encouraging. Estimated world supply from the 1939-40 crop is 290,000,000 bushels—the greatest on record. Under this pressure, wheat prices have sunk to the lowest levels known since the sixteenth century.

The U. S., no less than other grain growing nations, has suffered from this condition. Last week, the Department of Agriculture was reportedly considering a decision which might signal the start of a world-wide retreat from national grain planning.

During the past season, using an export bounty averaging 27 cents a bushel, the Department was able to sell abroad 118,000,000 bushels of American wheat at a total loss to the government of $26,000,000. Since then, however, world prices have sunk so low that the gap between them and U. S. prices, supported by Federal loans, would double the loss in a similar export program for the new season. With this in mind, Federal farm experts admitted privately they were considering drastic reductions in the still unannounced export program for 1940. The predicted new export goal: between 50,000,00 and 70,000,000 bushels.

FARMING SYSTEMS IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND

A general revision of farming systems in five Southern Maryland counties, including abandonment of the present practice of leaving tobacco land idle for two years between crops is recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

The recommendation was made after a joint study of land utilization in Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the University of Maryland.

James W. Coddington, State land-use planning specialist for Maryland, and David E. Deer, assistant agricultural economist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, conducted the study of 160 farms selected as representative of physical and economic conditions of the area.

Dr. Morley A. Jull, Head of the University Poultry Department, announces two Poultry Improvement Schools which will be held on the Eastern and Western Shores. The Eastern Shore School will be held in the high school auditorium, Denton, August 29-30, and the Central and Western Maryland School will be held in the Warehouse Theatre, Westminster, August 31 and September 1.

A Hybrid-Corn Field-Day will be held at Blakeford Farms, Queenstown, in Queen Anne's County, on Friday, August 25, beginning at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

This is a good opportunity for farmers to see a good demonstration of how hybrid corn is produced and also what it can do with regard to yields.

There will be road signs with arrows pointing directions to Blakeford Farms, starting at Centreville. Farmers and others interested in the development and production of hybrid corn are invited to attend.