



FIRE MOUNTAIN

BY NORMAN SPRINGER
ILLUSTRATED BY ROBT E. JOHNSTON

A Tale of Mystery, Treasure, Love and the Sea

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT HAS HAPPENED:

MARTIN BLAKE, law clerk with a longing for adventure, gets a taste of it when his employer, **JOSIAH SMATT**, who handles some mysterious cases, directs him to carry a sealed envelope to **CAPT. WILD BOB CAREW**, who is to be found in the Black Cruiser saloon at Green Street and the Embarcadero, San Francisco. While Blake is getting his instructions as to delivering the envelope **DR. ICHI**, a dandified Japanese, sits at Smatt's table. While Ichi previously has been closeted with Smatt, a supposed book agent who Martin later learns is

LITTLE BILLY, a hunchback, steward of the brig Cohasset, apparently tries to sell a "Compendium of Knowledge." The book agent, however, lets his eyes rove all over the place as he talks. His attempt at a sale is interrupted by Smatt's summons. When Blake, with the envelope in his pocket, re-enters the main part of Smatt's office he has a sense of some one's having just left. That night, on his errand, Blake encounters

THE BOSUN OF THE COHASSET, alcoholically mournful over the disappearance of Little Billy, with whom he had started out to buy a birthday present for the brig's "blessed little mate." When Blake refers to Ichi and Carew, the Bosun, a gigantic, h-less Englishman, becomes suddenly belligerent.

As he hears the "Black Cruiser" Martin runs into Little Billy, whom he tells of the bosun's anxiety. Though Martin detects no odor of liquor on the hunchback, Little Billy appears unsteady and, in seeking to maintain his balance, seizes the law clerk's overcoat, in which he carries the envelope Smatt was sending to Carew. Near the saloon Martin passes a figure in a gray overcoat. He enters the "Black Cruiser" and is put in an empty room of the lodging house upstairs while Carew is to be told of his arrival. As he waits in the dark room he hears a noise that makes him look out in time to see a group of Japanese dragging a beautiful white girl, clad in a gray coat, along the passage. As he opens the door, a fist shoots through, hits him in the pit of his stomach and knocks him back into the room.

Martin is unable to understand the tapping. Little Billy, coming to rescue the captive girl,

RUTH LE MOYNE, rescues Martin as well. Their escape is discovered as they leave the premises of the "Black Cruiser" and in a gun battle that follows Blake who had been given a pistol by Little Billy, shoots Spulvedo and throws his weapon, emptied, full in the face of Carew as the latter shoots. Martin awakens on board the Cohasset. Little Billy explains that Blake had suffered a scalp wound from Carew's shot. "We shanghai'd you for your own good," the hunchback explained. "The police or Carew's gang would have got you. You were not cut out for a law clerk, anyway!"

The Jap messenger who comes to convey Martin to Capt. Carew declines to answer the law clerk's questions about the girl, and to Blake's excited story, Carew himself—an extraordinarily handsome man—turns a deaf ear, demanding that Martin deliver the message. Realizing now that through the police would come the best chance to rescue the girl, whose gray overcoat was lying on the floor in the Captain's room, Martin delivers the envelope. As he turned to go Carew discovers that the envelope contained only blank paper. He roars out a command that results in Martin's being assaulted by several Japanese servants and

SPULVEDO, keeper of the "Black Cruiser." Blake, knocked out in the battle, comes to in a small, dark room. His kicks against the door bring a bullet crashing through it and a command from Spulvedo to keep quiet. Presently Martin hears an irregular tapping on the wall of the room in which he is a prisoner.

Miss Le Moyne, Martin learns, is mate of the Cohasset! As he sees her now, he is convinced he was right in judging her beautiful when he first saw her captive in the dive. Her grandfather is

SQUARE JIM DABNEY, blind captain of the brig. Through Little Billy, Dabney hears the first part of the "Secret of Fire Mountain." The hunchback begins by producing a parchment covered with

figures which was in the envelope Martin was carrying to Carew. Little Billy had substituted the envelope containing the blank paper, he explains, when he acted as though intoxicated on meeting Blake en route to the dive. Ichi, he said, had stolen the parchment originally from him. Dabney, violating a rule of the Russian Government in trading with natives for sealskins in Bering Sea, was pursued by a Russian gunboat and escaped, winding up at a volcanic island where was found wreckage of the ship Good Luck of New Bedford. At this point of the story the hunchback produces "The Log of John Winters, Bark Good Luck, 1899."

LITTLE BILLY explained that he had discovered the log while recovering from a "periodical spree" in a Chinese resort in Honolulu. The first entry, which he read to Martin, told of the capture of some whales by the crew of the Good Luck and in the last paragraph read:

Costa picked up a lump of ambergris near his kill. The ambergris weighs twenty-five pounds. A fine day's work.

"Tell me, Blake, do you know anything about ambergris?" asked Billy. "No, never heard of the stuff," answered Martin.

"Then we will have to digress a moment," said Little Billy. "Because, from to-night, you will think of ambergris by day, and dream of it by night—ambergris in kegs, codies of it! Ambergris, my friend, is the stuff John Winters calls 'ambergris.' It is a waxy substance, very light weight, that forms inside of a sperm whale, and which friend whale belches forth when he gets the ooze from feasting too heavily upon squid, squid, otherwise cuttle-fish, a horrid monster, all arms and beak, which the cachalot considers a most dainty titbit.

"Ambergris is the best perfume base obtainable—it has the virtue of making the odor superfluous and enduring. The demand for it is insatiable, and unlimited. To-day there is an almost unlimited market for ambergris. We looked up prices in 'Prisco' and found that \$40 an ounce will be paid without haggling.

"Meanwhile, let us to John Winters' journal again. Here comes the smashing denouement, the very next day, April 1, 1899:

"The day there did happen to us the like of which no whalerman aboard can remember. I will write it down like it happened. This morning, at dawn, we came through the channel into the lagoon of the north island. I was given the task of wooding, and Costa was told off to ashore. We towed the caiks ashore, and landed on a fine, white beach, that was littered with driftage. While the men were rolling the caiks up to the spring, Costa and I took a walk along the beach. We came upon a great squid lying dead. He had been bitten in two by a cachalot, and had only three arms left, but they were of tremendous length. Then we saw pieces of other squid all along the beach. Suddenly Costa ran forward, and gave a great shout, and bent over what I had taken to be a big jelly-fish. "By Gar—grease!"



WE HAVE BEEN HERE TEN DAYS. THINGS LOOK MIGHTY BLACK. SILVA'S NERVE IS GONE.

ambergris. We spent all the day getting the ambergris to shore.

During the day the wreck broke up and swept to sea. We salvaged but one box of candles—not a particle of the clothes and food we so sorely need. So doth Providence justly punish us for our greed!

Silva was greatly disheartened, but I braced him up. We set about to explore the caves with the candles, for we wanted a dry cave to sleep in and to stow the ambergris in. The ground-level caves are all wet from steam, though they are warm.

So we went into the mountain through the Elephant Head, toward the Great Noise. We came to a windy cave, where there was a great bottomless hole that the noise came out of. Silva went half mad with terror, for he is very superstitious, but I saw it was steam. But it is an evil place. And afterward we found the hole in the roof that led to this dry cave.

This window I write by is the only daylight opening in the dry cave, and it is full forty feet above the beach. But we had no nerve to look deeper into the black guts of this awful place and we decided to use

"And then—the end." I see Silva sitting opposite me. He looks, looks! Lord God, hast Thou deserted me? Billy, who had been with Capt. Dabney when the Cohasset reached the volcanic island, realized the identity of the place with Winters' Island. From the Chinese owner of the resort the hunchback learned that Winters had been picked up demented in his open boat, brought to Honolulu and had there died. He left his log with the Chinaman, who sold it to Little Billy for "five dollars."

"At breakfast next morning I acquainted Ruth with the passages I read to you," Little Billy explains. "We were waited on by Ichi, the little Jap, whom we shipped as cook at Hakodate. As he apparently knew hardly anything of English, we took no pains to guard our speech against him. Indeed, we never gave him a thought. We verified the Good Luck's loss and congratulated ourselves on the finding of Fire Mountain—all within the hearing of Ichi. "We were daunted only by the prospect of searching blindly through that cave-ridden mountain! Then Ruth told the code. A rip on the lining of the log book revealed it—the piece of skin you see on the table. The writing, you see, is all numerical."

Martin inspected the faded jumble of figures: 433445423615314012121314 123264338168115323113844231511464 64344113212834114214652431454618115 11622685844246113134214468444242815 84393164261441546131131515.

"How do you know it's a code?" he asked. "Three excellent reasons," answered the hunchback. "First, Winters mentions writing down the secret of the cave's location and we find the skin; second, Smatt himself deciphered the figures for Ichi; third, Ruth and I proved correctness of the deciphering this morning. We talked to each other through the wall in the 'Black Cruiser' by means of it. Consultation with Poe's 'Goldbug' gave me the key. It is what is called a checkerboard code. I will draw it out."

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| a | b | c | d | e |
| f | g | h | i | j |
| k | l | m | n | o |
| p | q | r | s | t |
| u | v | w | x | y |
| z | | | | |

Number 6 used for spacing between words. "k" is missing; "c" is used instead.

Learn more of the meaning of the cipher in Monday's instalment. (Copyright, 1922, by the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

HOTEL MEN'S WEEK FOR A CONVENTION AND EXPOSITION

It Will Be Week Replete With Fun and Gustatory Instruction.

The leading hotel men of this country and Canada are already arriving in New York for the Seventh National Hotel Exposition, which begins Monday at the Grand Central Palace, and will continue throughout the week. The thirty-sixth annual convention will also be held, and the New York State Hotel Association and the Hotel Association of New York City will be the hosts of the several hundred banquets.

The exposition this year is expected to be of unusual interest, for numerous labor-saving devices and novel systems of hotel management will be demonstrated for the first time.

E. M. Stader, of the Pennsylvania, will entertain all visiting hotel men at luncheon Monday noon, and the Exposition will open in the evening following addresses by prominent New York officials. The Long Island Hotel and Restaurant Association will have a dinner at the Commodore Tuesday night, and on Wednesday night come the theatre party to all visiting ladies and a supper dance at the Plaza.

"Chef's Afternoon," on Thursday, will be followed by the big banquet of the New York State Hotel Association at the Commodore. Friday will be "Restaurants' Day," and will include a golf tournament at the Westchester-Biltmore, and John McE. Bowman's famous "Open House" at the Commodore. Housekeepers will be catered to at the Exposition Saturday, when special demonstrations and cooking competitions will take place.

Housewives' Guide of Market Prices

The first fall shipment of asparagus came from Buenos Ayres and sold Friday at \$15 per box, of about twenty-two bunches. In the same consignment were tomatoes which were in poor shape and could not bring a good price in competition with the better class California and nearby products.

A quantity of fine tomatoes from the Bahama Islands fared better on the market, selling at \$2.50 to \$4 per basket, containing from 144 to 180 tomatoes.

Long Island hothouse tomatoes bring 20 to 25 cents per pound wholesale, about three tomatoes weighing a pound.

Much pork stock was among the first Florida lettuce and romaine, and dealers were trying to move it at 2 and 3 cents per head.

Wholesale figures show that veal, beef and mutton are not in demand by the retail dealers, which may indicate that the housewife is either buying lamb and pork or fresh killed chicken and fowl. Choice cuts of good grade veal retail between 30 and 45 cents per pound and either chops or a good roast would be tasty for Sunday's dinner. Beef varies from 25 cents per pound for chopped or stewing portions to 40 cents per pound for prime roasting ribs; and a leg of mutton costs but 25 cents per pound. Fresh hams retail at 38 cents per pound; pork tenderloins, 35 cents; roasting cuts, 30 to 45 cents, and chops, 25 to 40 cents; lamb ranges from 20 to 45 cents per pound for the choicer cuts. Wholesale, beef is 14 to 18 cents per pound; veal, 13 to 15 cents; lamb, 25 to 27 cents; mutton, 13 to 15 cents; pork loins, 28 to 31 cents. Fresh killed chicken retail between 35 to 45 cents per pound and wholesale, 25 to 40 cents; fowls are 24 to 45 cents retail, and 20 to 35 cents wholesale.

The expected advance in the butter market came Wednesday for the finer grades with a scarcity noticeable and a strong demand. October saw the greatest reduction of New York storage stock—75,705 packages—of any

CONNECTICUT TOWN WOULD REGULATE ALL FEES OF PHYSICIANS

Charter Prescription Would Fix Maximum Dose for Their Charges.

(Special to The Evening World.)

NEW BRITAIN, Conn., Nov. 18.—The city of Bristol plans to bring before the new Legislature a proposed charter amendment that establishes a medical bureau, the object of which will be to fix a maximum rate which physicians and surgeons of the city may charge.

If it passes this will be the only place in New England where the fees of the medical practitioner are regulated by city ordinance.

The Medical Association has registered violent protest.

one year ago, shows butter some higher, eggs about the same and apples cheaper to-day.

Handic apples, barrel, \$7.25 to \$7.50, Nov. 18, 1921. \$4 to \$4.25, Nov. 18, 1922.

Kiefer pears, barrel, \$5 to \$7, Nov. 18, 1921. \$4 to \$5, Nov. 18, 1922.

Hearts, bunch, 15 to 25, Nov. 18, 1921. 25 to 35, Nov. 18, 1922.

Red cabbage, head, 6 to 10, Nov. 18, 1921. 5 to 7, Nov. 18, 1922.

Carrot bunch, 5 to 10, Nov. 18, 1921. 2 to 2 1/2, Nov. 18, 1922.

Heat butter, pound, 42 to 45, Nov. 18, 1921. 38 to 40, Nov. 18, 1922.

Eggs, white, dozen (best), 80 to 85, Nov. 18, 1921. 75 to 80, Nov. 18, 1922.

Beans, brown (best), 22 to 25, Nov. 18, 1921. 18 to 20, Nov. 18, 1922.

A choice of three meats is offered for Sunday's dinner, all priced between 25 and 35 cents per pound; the salad will cost next to nothing, thereby giving the housewife a little leisurely purchase a fancy vegetable, like Brussels sprouts.

Chicken pie with mushrooms (chicken 35c per pound; 1/2 pound mushrooms 15c), or

Beef pot roast with carrots (roast, 25 to 35 cents per pound), or

Leg of mutton and mint sauce (mutton, 25c per pound; fresh mint, 10c). Baked potatoes (5 pounds for 9c).

Brussels sprouts with French dressing (sprouts, 25c per quart), or

Maashed turnips (2c per pound).

Cold slaw and green pepper rings (cabbage 5c per head).

Cluster raisins and walnuts (raisins 15c per half pound; walnuts, 12c per half pound).

Boy Scouts of America

The Evening World conducts a column of general and local interest to Boy Scouts each Saturday. Bronx and Manhattan items should be sent to Headquarters, while Scout leaders of Westchester, New Jersey and Staten Island are invited to mail their notes to the Boy Scout Editor, The Evening World, No. 63 Park Row, New York City.

of No. 539. After the processional, in which the Scouts followed the choir, the Stars and Stripes and the church colors were presented. The Rev. Ellis Pairy, assistant pastor of the church, officiated.

The second class examinations were passed by eleven Scouts on Monday evening, and after the examinations the new investiture ceremony of initiation was carried out.

The Scout officials' dinner for all Troop Committeemen, Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters and field men will be held at the Carroll Club, No. 129 Madison Avenue, at 6:30 P. M. on the evening of the 25th.

SCOUT YELLIN WINS NEW RANK.

Scout Max Yellin of No. 239 Henry Street, a member of the Second Division, has been raised to the rank of Life and Star Scout. He is Senior Patrol Leader of Troop No. 236 and has been a Scout for three years.

DEAF STUDENTS STUDY SCOUTCRAFT.

The Indiana State School for the Deaf has an enthusiastic group of twenty-four boys who are preparing to become Boy Scouts. All of them are deaf, and a number are dumb. They have been learning the Scout path and law, and as soon as they will take a written examination. They are looking forward to hiking and many other features of scouting.

"A BOY SCOUT LIVES HERE."

A "service flag" innovation has been adopted in Philadelphia, where a poster bearing the inscription, "A Boy Scout Lives Here," is placed in the front window of each Scout home.

FIFTH DIVISION NOTES.

Scouts of Troops Nos. 539 and 643 were invited to act as the Guard of Honor at the presentation of colors during the Armistice Day services at the Holy Trinity Church, and thirty-four Scouts from these troops were present under Troop Committeeman Robt. Scoutmaster Pennell and Assistant Scoutmaster Edwin Roth, all

THE EVENING WORLD'S RADIO PHONE SERVICE COLUMN.

By Capt. Robert Scofield Wood.

WOR-NEWARK 400 METRES.

7:30 to 4:30 P. M.—Princeton-Tale football game broadcast over the long distance lines direct from Princeton.

6:15 to 7:00 P. M.—Popular numbers by the Colonial Dance Orchestra.

WOL-MEDFORD HILLSIDE 350 METRES.

7:00 A. M.—"Before Breakfast Set-Ups," Arthur E. Baird.

9:30 A. M.—Musical program.

10:30 A. M.—New England and ocean forecasts.

11:30 A. M.—Musical program.

1:45 P. M.—Harvard-Brown football game. Complete description, play by play, from the Harvard Stadium, Soldiers' Field, Cambridge, Mass.

6:00 P. M.—Weekly crop report by Mr. V. A. Sanders.

8:30 P. M.—Evening program of music and talks.

SUNDAY.

4 P. M.—Twilight program, including concert by choir of First Unitarian Society of West Newton.

6:30 P. M.—Boston police reports.

7:30 P. M.—Church service, conducted by the Rev. Malcolm Taylor, Secretary of Province of New England for Episcopalians. Music of service by All Saints' Church Choir of Brookline.

8 P. M.—Evening musicals.

WJZ-NEWARK 300 METRES.

2 P. M.—Play by play results of the Columbia University vs. Dartmouth football game direct from the Polo Grounds.

5:30 P. M.—Closing prices on stocks, bonds, grain, coffee and sugar.

5:45 P. M.—Resume of sporting events.

6 P. M.—Musical program.

7 P. M.—"Uncle Wiggly Stories," by Howard R. Galt, author.

8:30 P. M.—"Fashionable."

8:45 P. M.—Program will be announced by radiotelephone.

9:55 to 10 P. M.—Arlington time collection.

signals. Official weather forecast. 10:01 P. M.—Program will be announced by radiophone.

SUNDAY.

11:00 A. M.—Morning prayer and holy communion services of St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue and 53d Street, New York City.

12:00 P. M.—Bible program.

3:00 P. M.—Radio Chapel services, sermon by the Rev. William Wilkinson of the Trinity Parish.

5:45 P. M.—"Boy's Reading," by Franklin K. Matthews.

6:30 P. M.—Headings and records from "The Bubble Books That Ring," by Ralph M. Newey.

7:00 P. M.—Adventure stories for older boys and girls.

7:30 P. M.—"Impersonations," by Mrs. Curtis Burnley Railing.

8:45 P. M.—Program arranged by Doubleday, Page & Co.

8:00 P. M.—Concert arranged by Leonard Snyder, tenor.

8:30 P. M.—Recital by Mme. Novarr, Daron Koskarian, mezzo soprano, with flute obligatos by William Schade, piano accompaniment by Miss Kay Seal.

9:05 P. M.—"The Work of a Motion Picture Director," Allan Dawn.

9:30 P. M.—"Home and Juliet," by Mona Morgan.

ANTI-VIVISECTIONISTS ISSUE OPEN CHALLENGE

English Debater Will Meet All Comers at a Town Hall Meeting To-Night.

At the Town Hall, No. 113 West 43d Street, at 8:15 this evening, Walter R. Hadwen, M. D., M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., L. S. A., J. P., of England, will deliver an address under the auspices of the New York Anti-Vivisection Society, of which Mrs. Diana Belais is President.

The society has issued a challenge to Dr. Simon Flexner of the Rockefeller Institute, to reply to Dr. Hadwen. Dr. Hadwen has expressed his willingness to meet all comers orally at the conclusion of his lecture and to answer any questions put to him.

Admission is free and there will be no collection.