

TODAY'S MYSTERY STORY

By PHILIP FRANCIS NOWLAN

"What is it, Mr. Hunt?" asked the president anxiously.

"Not yet," said Hunt laconically, "but I shall within a half hour, I must go to police headquarters now."

"Arrest and search any officer or employee of the bank attempting to leave town today," he instructed, and went on to explain.

But can you explain how Harvey Hunt knew the bank robbery was an "inside" job, and what his examination of the safe had to do with the recollection of the culprit's identity?

The answer will appear tomorrow.

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Yesterday's Mystery Solution
AS THE case of "sleight of hand," Mrs. Montague-Crittendale was in reality one of the most clever con artists on two continents.

The cleverest part of her scheme was that of leaving \$25,000 with Koppel instead of trying to get the necklace for \$100,000.

Can you solve this mystery of No Clue

It was once in his life failure stared at Harvey Hunt in the face. There was the gaping hole where the vault door of the Kerton National Bank had been.

"The 'egg' appeared to have done a perfect job," the police had been there ahead of Harvey Hunt, and had found no clue.

"It couldn't have been more than four or five minutes," replied Brown. "You see, there are some dwellings across the street and several persons telephoned the alarm simultaneously."

"Yes," remarked Hunt, "I dare say they would. The fellow did not bother to muffle the explosion by putting blankets over the door."

"I'm going back in that safe to have a closer look," he explained. "Will you be so good as to snap off the lights in the vault? Often one can see more with a little contrivance like this than with a flood of light."

"I made a weird picture in the darkened counting room, the crouching figure of the criminal investigator, the tiny point of light and the enormously magnified shadow of him that it cast upon the interior walls of the vault."

Then, turning that all might see, though he was ten or fifteen feet away from them, he drew a little instrument from a pocket and scraped at the blank spot, but dropped it to start his hand back on one of the shelves, and then thrust it quickly in his pocket.

She had, of course, withdrawn all of her money just prior to her intended "operation" on Koppel, and the frank statement that she wanted it to buy the necklace removed all suspicion such action might create.

Not a fingerprint was to be found. Not a yegg in that section of the country capable of "pulling the job" but was accounted for in the telegraphic exchange of police information which followed the discovery of the crime.

Not a thing had been disturbed inside the vault but negotiable securities, bonds, the president and Lindley, the cashier, had made a careful examination, and in spite of the fact that the interior of the vault was rather crowded, the yegg apparently had not hesitated, but working with clocklike precision had placed his hand on just what he wanted, and nothing else.

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