

The Million Dollar Mystery

Brings Roosevelt. On your way, Hortense, he cried to the hall maid, who wanted a look at the card. "Up to the room, sir. He'll see you."

"Neither are you the Russian minister of police," urbanely.

"Who are you?"

"I am Hargrave's confidential man, sir."

"The two men eyed each other cautiously."

"You speak Russian?"

"No, I am able to scribble a few words; that is all."

"The Russian lit a cigarette and smoked leisurely. He was in no hurry."

"No, I am not the minister; but I am his accredited agent. I am empowered to bring back to Russia a man who is known here by the name of Braine, another by the name of Vroom, and a woman who calls herself a countess and unfortunately is one. All I desire is some damaging proof against them that they are outlaws in this country. The rest will be simple."

"They have all three taken out naturalization papers."

"The Russian waved his hand airily. "Once they are in Russia those documents will never come to light. This man Braine, it has been learned, has long been in the pay of Prussia and has given the general staff of that country many plans of our frontier fortifications. I do not know what any one of the three looks like. That is why I sought Hargrave."

"I will gladly point them out to you," said Jones, rubbing his hands together, a sign that he was greatly pleased.

"That will be very good of you, I'm sure," in a rumbling but perfectly intelligible English.

"And suddenly they all three disappeared."

"Suddenly; and you may believe me that from that time on they'll be heard of never more."

"All this sounds extremely agreeable to me," Mr. Hargrave will be happy to hear that his long enforced hiding will soon come to an end."

"All you have to do, sir, is to point them out to me."

"My gaiter in this waiting for ten years to gather in this delectable trio. A month, if you like."

"The sooner the better. I shall call this evening after dinner. We shall begin with Mr. Braine; and generally where he is in the man. Vroom will be the most difficult."

"After dinner, then, since you know some of his haunts. There is a reward."

Jones laughed shortly. "Keep it yourself, sir. Mr. Hargrave would willingly double whatever this reward is to eliminate these despicable creatures from his affairs."

"Thanks."

While this conversation was taking place Norton idled about; and fumbled with the key. Braine and his companions hung themselves upon the reporter and overpowered him.

"Ah, my friend Braine!" he said. "My friend Norton!" jeered the victor.

"And what do you want; some peaches?"

"A paper, my friend, a little secret of paper with invisible writing on it. We promise to give you something in exchange for it."

"What?" asked Jim with as much nonchalance as he could assume.

"Life."

"Search," said Jim. "You won't object to my smoking?" He began to roll a cigarette while they passed over him. He struck a match; the pleasant aroma of tobacco floated about his head.

"He's got it on him somewhere. I saw him take it. He's got his nerve with him."

The cigarette glowed. Jim smoked hurriedly.

Through every pocket they went. The contents of his wallet lay scattered at his feet, his watch dangled from the chain. The cigarette grew shorter and shorter. Suddenly one of the men stretched out a hand and whisked the cigarette from Jim's lips.

RESERVE

The Chief Executive Deplores the Lack of Ships, Declares That the Government Must Open the Gates of Trade and Urges Passage of the Pending Shipping Bill — Rural Credits and Safety at Sea. Self Government For Filipinos Again Recommended.

FOLLOWING is President Wilson's annual message, delivered at the beginning of the short term of the Sixty-third Congress:

Gentlemen of the Congress—The session upon which you are now entering will be the closing session of the Sixty-third Congress, a Congress, I venture to say, which will long be remembered for the great body of thoughtful and constructive work which it has done in loyal response to the thought and needs of the country. I should like in this address to review the notable record and try to make adequate assessments of it, but no doubt we stand too near the work that has been done and are ourselves too much part of it to play the part of historians toward it.

Moreover, our thoughts are now more of the future than of the past. While we have worked at our tasks of peace the circumstances of the whole age have been altered by war. What we have done for our own land and our own people we did with the best that was in us, whether of character or of intelligence, with sober enthusiasm and a confidence in the principles upon which we were acting which sustained us at every step of the difficult undertaking. But it is done. It has passed from our hands. It is now an established part of the legislation of the country its usefulness, its effects will disclose themselves in experience. What chiefly strikes us now, as we look about us during these closing days of what will be forever memorable in the history of the world, is that we face new tasks, have been facing them these six months, must face them in the months to come—face them without perturbation, like men who have forgotten everything but a common duty and the fact that we are representatives.

"WE NEED SHIPS; WE HAVE NOT GOT THEM." The United States, this great people whom we speak and act, should be ready as never before to serve itself and to serve mankind; ready with its resources, its energies, its forces of production and its means of distribution. We are not ready to oppose our own resources at once. We are not prepared to use them immediately and at their best, without and without waste. To speak plainly, we have grossly erred in the way in which we have handled and hindered the development of our merchant marine, and now, when we need ships, we have not got them.

sentatives of a great people whose thought is not of us, but of what America is to be and of what America should be in such circumstances as these upon which we look amazed and anxious. War has interrupted the means of trade not only, but also the processes of production. In Europe it is destroying men and resources wholesale and upon a scale unprecedented and appalling. There is reason to fear that the time is near, if it be not already at hand, when several of the countries of Europe will find it difficult to do for their people what they have hitherto been always easily able to do—many essential and fundamental things. At any rate, they will need our help and our manifold services as they have never needed them before, and we should be ready, more fit and ready than we have ever been.

AMERICA FACES NEW MARKETS FOR TRADE.

Merchant Marine Must Be Built Up to Meet Opportunities. It is of equal consequence that the nations upon Europe has usually supplied with industrial products, and that the manufacture and commerce of which they are in constant need and without which their economic development halts and stands still can now get only a small part of what they formerly imported and eagerly look to us to supply them all but empty markets. This is particularly true of our own neighbors, the states, great and small, of Central and South America. Their lines of trade have hitherto run chiefly toward the seas, not to our ports, but to the ports of Great Britain and of the older continent of Europe. I do not stop to inquire why or to make any comment on probable causes. What interests us just now is not the explanation, but the fact and our duty and opportunity in the presence of it. Here are markets which we must supply, and we must find the means of action. The United States, this great people for whom we speak and act, should be ready as never before to serve itself and to serve mankind, ready with its resources, its energies, its forces of production and its means of distribution.

It is a very practical matter, a matter of ways and means. We have the resources, but we are fully ready to use them. And if we can make ready what we have, have we the means at hand to distribute it? We are not fully ready; neither have we the means of distribution. We are willing, but we are not prepared to serve them, and at their best, without delay and without waste.

To speak plainly, we have grossly erred in the way in which we have handled and hindered the development of our merchant marine. And now,

WILSON'S MESSAGE

No Standing Army, but a Trained Citizenry For War. "We Have Not Been Negligent of National Defense." A Powerful Navy Needed, "But Who Shall Tell Us What Sort of Navy to Build?" To Learn and Profit by the Lesson of Every Experience.



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set the ships if we wait for the time to develop without them. To correct the many mistakes which we have discouraged and all but destroyed the merchant marine of the country, to retrace the steps by which we have, it seems almost deliberately, withdrawn our flag from the seas, except where, here and there, a ship of war is hidden carry it or some wandering yacht displays it, would take a long time and involve many detailed items of legislation. The time which we have immediately to handle would disappear or find other channels while we debated the items.

The case is not unlike that which confronted us when our own continent was to be opened up to settlement, to industry, and we needed long lines of railway, extended means of transportation prepared beforehand, if development was not to lag intolerably and wait interminably. We have laid out the railroads and to be built, and if we had it to do over again we should of course build them, but in another way. Therefore I propose another way of providing the means of transportation, which must precede, not follow, the settlement of the land. We have regular sailings and moderate charges—before streams of merchandise went down freely and profitably through them.

SAYS SHIPPING BILL IS VERY IMPORTANT.

It Should Be Passed to Profit by Opened Gates of Trade. Hence the pending shipping bill, discussed at the last session, but as yet passed by neither house. In my judgment such legislation is imperatively needed and cannot wisely be postponed. The government must open these gates of trade, and open them wide, open them before it is altogether profitable to open them or altogether essential to ask private capital to open them at a venture. It is not a question of the government's repaying the bill. It should take action to make it certain that transportation at reasonable rates will be promptly provided, even where the carriage is not at first profitable, and then, when the carriage has become sufficiently profitable to attract and engage private capital and engage it in abundance, the government ought to withdraw.

GATES OF TRADE MUST BE OPENED.

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SELF GOVERNMENT FOR FILIPINOS IS URGED.

President Says Senate Should Pass Measure Now Before Senate. And there is another great piece of legislation which awaits and should receive the sanction of the senate. I mean the bill which gives a larger measure of self government to the people of the Philippines. How better in this time of anxious questioning and perplexed policy could we show our confidence in the principles of liberty as the source as well as the expression of life; how better could we demonstrate our own self possession and steadfastness in the courses of justice and disinterestedness than by thus going calmly forward to fulfill our promises to a dependent people, who will now look more anxiously than ever to see whether we have indeed the liberality, the unselfishness, the courage, the faith we have boasted and professed? I cannot believe that the senate will let this great measure of constructive justice await the action of another Congress. Its passage would nobly crown the record of these two years of memorable labor.

But I think that you will agree with me that this does not complete the toll of our duty. How are we to carry out the provisions of the act which I have spoken of? We have not the ships! How are we to build up a great trade if we have not the certain and constant means of transportation upon which all profitable and useful commerce depends? And how are we to

matter which, as I have said, seems small, but is in reality very great. Its importance has only to be looked into to be appreciated.

GOVERNMENT ECONOMY IS VERY IMPERATIVE.

Urges Systematic Reorganization to Gain Greater Efficiency. Before I close may I say a few words upon two topics much discussed out of doors upon which it is highly important that our judgments should be clear, definite and steadfast. One of these is economy in government expenditures. The duty of economy is not debatable. It is manifest and imperative. In the appropriations we pass we are spending the money of the great people whose servants we are—not our own. We are trustees and responsible stewards in the spending. The only thing debatable and upon which we should be careful to make our thought and purpose clear is the kind of economy demanded of us. I assert with the greatest confidence that the people of the United States are not jealous of the amount their government costs if they are sure that they get the most for their money, and that the money is being spent for objects of which they approve and that it is being applied with good business sense and management.

Governments grow piecemeal both in their tasks and in their methods, and these tasks are to be performed, and very few governments are organized, I venture to say, as wise and experienced business men would organize them if they had a clean sheet of paper to write upon. Certainly the government of the United States is not. I think that it is generally agreed that there should be a systematic reorganization and reestablishing of its parts so that the sort of economy which would effect considerable savings in expense. But the amount of money saved in that way would, I believe, though no doubt considerable in itself, amount to a small—small, I mean, in proportion to the total necessary outlays of the government. It would be thoroughly worth effecting, as every saving would, great or small.

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COASTS OF ALASKA SHOULD BE SURVEYED.

Present Danger to Navigation Ought to Be Removed by Charts. There is another matter of which I must make special mention, if I am to discharge my conscience, lest it should escape your attention. It may seem a very small thing, it affects only a single item of appropriation. But many human lives and many great enterprises hang upon it. It is the matter of making adequate provision for the survey and charting of our coasts. It is immediately pressing and exigent in connection with the immense coast line of Alaska, a coast line greater than that of the United States themselves, though it is also very important indeed with regard to the older coasts of the continent.

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the years to come as we strive to show in our life as a nation what liberty and the inspirations of an emancipated spirit may do for men and for societies, for individuals, for states and for mankind.

DEALERS WANTED

ALLEN "37" \$895 WE WANT a wide-awake DEALER in each county in Southern Ohio, adjacent territory in Virginia, Southern Indiana and entire State of Kentucky to take on our line of ALLEN, METZ automobiles. Our cars SELL good money the moment you make MONEY. From \$275 up; also one at \$450. This is a good chance for an established Auto Dealer to take on a HUSTLER with a little money and back to get a first class money-making machine. Write quick for particulars to the Factory Representative—KENTON MOTOR COMPANY, 314 E. 11th St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Get our cards "For Sale," "For Rent," "Furnished Rooms For Rent," 10 and 15 cents each.

Dyspepsia is America's curse. To restore digestion, normal weight, good health and purify the blood, use Burdock Blood Bitters. Sold at all drug stores. Price \$1.—Adv. dec.

It will be right enough, right American policy, based upon our accustomed principles and practices, to provide a system by which every citizen who will volunteer for the training may be made familiar with the use of modern arms, the rudiments of drill and maneuver and the maintenance and sanitation of camps. We should encourage such training and make it a means of discipline which our young men will learn to value.

It is right, too, that we should provide it not only, but that we should make it as attractive as possible, and so induce our young men to undergo it at such times as they can command a little freedom and can seek the physical development they need, for more healthy and strenuous by every means which is not inconsistent with our obligations to our own people or with the established policy of our government, and this also not because the time or occasion specially calls for such measures, but because it should be our constant policy to make these provisions for our national peace and safety.

More than this carries with it a reversal of the whole history and character of our policy. For the policy, proposed at this time, permit me to say, would mean merely that we had lost our self possession, that we had been thrown off our balance by a war with which we had no business to do, whose causes cannot touch us, whose very existence affords us opportunities of friendship and disinterested service which should make us ashamed of any thought of hostility or fearful prepara-

tion for trouble. This is assuredly the opportunity for which a people and a government like ours were raised up, the opportunity not only to speak, but actually to embody and exemplify the counsels of peace and amity and the lasting concord which is based on justice and fair and generous dealing.

POWERFUL NAVY IS AMERICAN POLICY.

United States Will Continue to Remain Strong on the Sea. A powerful navy we have always regarded as our proper and natural means of defense, and it has always been of defense that we have thought, never of aggression or of conquest. But who shall tell us now what sort of navy to build? We shall take care to be strong upon the seas in the future as in the past, and there will be no thought of offense or of provocation in that. Our ships are our natural bulwarks. When will the experts tell us just what construction we should have and when will they be right for ten years together, if the relative efficiency of craft of different kinds and uses continues to change as we have seen it change under our very eyes in these last few months?

But I turn away from the subject. It is not new. There is no new need to discuss it. We shall not alter our attitude toward it because some among us are nervous and excited. We shall easily and sensibly agree upon a policy of defense. The question has not changed its aspects because the times are not normal. Our policy will not be for an occasion. It will be conceived as a permanent and settled thing which we will pursue at all seasons without haste and after a fashion perfectly consistent with the peace of the world, the abiding friendship of states and the unshampered freedom of all with whom we deal. Let there be no misconception. The country has been misinformed. We have not been negligent of national defense. We are not unmindful of the great responsibility resting upon us. We shall learn and profit by the lesson of every experience and every new circumstance, and what is needed will be adequately done.

I close, as I began, by reminding you of the great task and duties of peace which challenge our best powers and invite us to build what will last, the tasks to which we can address ourselves now and at all time with free hearts and with all the finest gifts of constructive wisdom we possess. To develop our life and our resources, to supply our own people and the people of the world as their need arises from the abundant plenty of our fields and our marts of trade, to enrich the commerce of our own states and of the world with the products of our mines, our farms and our factories, with the creations of our thought and the fruits of our character—this is what will hold our attention and our enthusiasm steadily now and in

TAX COLLECTOR 74 YEARS OLD

Expected to Resign on Account of Feebleness — Gained Strength and Twenty-four Pounds by Taking Vinol.

Corinth, Miss.—"I am a city tax collector and seventy-four years of age. I was in a weak, run-down condition so that I became exhausted by every little exertion. My physician told me about Vinol, and I decided to take it. In a week I noticed considerable improvement; I continued its use and now I have gained twenty-four pounds in weight, and feel much stronger. I consider Vinol a fine tonic to create strength for old people."—J. A. PRICE, Corinth, Miss.

As one grows old their organs act more slowly and less effectively than in youth, circulation is poor, the blood gets thin, the appetite poor, and digestion weak. Vinol, our delicious cod liver and iron tonic, is the ideal strengthener and body builder for old folks because it creates a good healthy appetite, strengthens digestion, enriches the blood, improves circulation and in this natural manner builds up, strengthens and invigorates feeble, run-down, nervous and aged people, and if it does not do all we say, we will pay back your money.

B. L. MIDDLETON, Richmond, Ky.

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DEALER IN Fresh Meats, Corn and Dried Beef FRESH AND SMOKED TONGUES All Refrigerator Meats PHONE 39

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IRVINE ST. RICHMOND, KY.

Advertisement for Eczema Remedy. Have a Smooth, Beautiful Skin. Science has now made it possible to eradicate the various skin diseases, and to have a clear, smooth, beautiful skin. Eczema Remedy. The scientific preparation that removes the cause of eczema in its various forms, and restores the skin to a normal, healthy condition. The itching and burning of Eczema, Tetter, Ringworm, Barber's Itch, Dantruff and other skin diseases are relieved by Meriol Eczema Remedy. We are authorized to positively guarantee this remedy. Two sizes—50 cents and \$1.00. For sale by MADISON CEMETERY, EXCLUSIVE AGENCY.

Advertisement for Dutchess Trousers. DUTCHESS TROUSERS STRONGEST ON EARTH. 10 Cents a Button \$100 a Rip. CROSSETT SHOES—the kind that will wear and satisfy you. For the BEST come to JOHN E. SEXTON. VICK'S Croup and SALVE.

Advertisement for McCormick's Corn Shredder. It's EASY WORK. It's easy work to handle your corn crop if you use the McCormick husker and shredder. McCormick huskers and shredders are made in sizes to suit your requirements—4, 6, and 8 huskins' rolls; equipped with cleaning and bagging devices to save the shelled corn; safety device for throwing the snapping rolls in and out of gear; a number of other features which will be glad to show you. We invite you to call. If you don't need a husker, perhaps you will need some other machine that is in the McCormick line. Our line is complete. We will treat you right. OLDHAM & HARBER.