

"THE ACCOMPLICE" A Glance at Current Topics and Events

By FREDERICK TREVOR HILL

A Unique Murder Trial as Described by the Foreman of the Jury, In Which Is Revealed the Most Astounding and Inconceivable Act of Rascality.

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PROLOGUE.

The office of foreman on the jury in the People versus Emory case falls to the lot of Mr. Lambert, a literary man, whose qualifications lay in his absolute ignorance of the case. Ferris Barstow, a man of tenacious tendencies, is the lawyer for the accused girl, Alice Emory, former private secretary of Gregory Shaw, who was found murdered mysteriously in his home. In presenting the case to the jury Deane Gilbert, the prosecutor, explains the facts in detail, and the evidence all points to the guilt of the accused. The foreman, homeward bound, assists Barbara Frayne, a young horsewoman, and unwillingly listens to a declaration on the Emory case. Barbara believes Miss Emory to be innocent. The foreman visits the scene of the murder. Viewing the home from the outside, he overhears Madeleine Mapes, the housekeeper, endeavoring to persuade Betty Field, another servant, to forget all about a blue skirt she had seen the former put in the furnace. At this moment Barstow's assistant, Mr. Hunt, visits the women in an effort to get them to leave the neighborhood where their testimony might injure the accused. The trial opens. Lambert forces valuable testimony from the architect who had drawn the plans for the Shaw house. Gilbert produces evidence that forged Shaw checks were made out to the order of Alice Emory. When court adjourns Lambert gets a message to call up 22 Pollicet and is told by Miss Frayne that she occupied Miss Emory's room on the night of the murder and that Miss Emory was not there. Soon thereafter Lambert is approached in a dark lane by a man who Lambert believes is Barstow's assistant, Hunt, but who calls himself Gilbert's assistant and gives the name Corning. This man tries to worm from Lambert his reason for desiring to leave the jury, but fails. Lambert is warned he shouldn't leave for Hefryville without first consulting the judge. Lambert ignores the warning and plays the part of hero, with Barbara a witness, by saving Miss Mapes and Betty Field from what looked like a runaway. The driver is pitched off his seat and is badly hurt. He proves to be Hunt in disguise. The defendant is led into the court leaning heavily on the arm of her lawyer, Bayne, a juror, characterizes it as "sham" to Lambert. Gilbert produces evidence to show Shaw swore he was unmarried. Barstow and Gilbert have many tilts, and the latter has the courtroom locked while he examines Madeleine Mapes about the blue skirt which Miss Emory gave her. The testimony further implicates Miss Emory. Barstow next takes the witness and tries to place suspicion on her. He questions her so viciously that Miss Emory protests. This he ignores, and in her anger his client rises. He attempts to hold her. She frees herself and calls him a coward as Miss Mapes faints. Bethna Field is terror stricken when questioned about the blue skirt. Gilbert makes an unusual move by calling Lambert, the foreman, to the stand.

Uncomfortable Moments.

I STARED at the speaker in astonishment as he asked me to become a witness, scarcely believing my ears, but before I had completed the wondering inquiry which rose to my lips Barstow had interrupted with a protesting roar. "Your honor, this is outrageous, barefaced intimidation of the jury! I object and protest. You cannot tolerate such action sir! It is insulting to the dignity of the court!" The passionate outburst brought half the spectators to their feet, and the gavel crashed upon the desk again and again, the judge leaning toward the excited audience in a threatening attitude. "Sit down!" he shouted angrily. "Be seated, every one of you! Another minute and I'll clear the benches. Officer, arrest the next man or woman who rises." The commotion gradually subsided, but the old jurist continued glaring indignantly at the crowd for some seconds after order was restored. Then he turned to Barstow with an expression of menacing severity. "I object!" Barstow again almost shouted. "The court cannot countenance this proceeding in any manner whatsoever. If it does the case may as well end here and now, for no adverse verdict rendered by a jury under such circumstances would stand for one moment on appeal." "I will assume the responsibility of sustaining the verdict in this case," retorted Gilbert meaningly. "Of course you will," sneered Barstow. "But I warn you there's enough queer law in this case already to keep you busy without making it utterly ridiculous." Every note in the man's voice was irritating, and I began to suspect that he was deliberately seeking to anger the judge, but how he dared rouse the



"Yes, sir, I can."

old gentleman at such a crisis passed my comprehension. Suddenly it occurred to me that he might be endeavoring to provoke the court into deciding against him, and as I remembered his boast that any adverse verdict of the jury would be overturned by the higher courts if the prosecutor's request should be granted I became convinced that this was his settled purpose. "Mr. Lambert, I will ask you"—I leaned forward as the judge addressed me, but Barstow waved me back with both his arms. "Don't answer the question, Mr. Foreman!" he shouted. "I object, your honor! I object! If you interrogate the juror now I warn you the case is ended, and you will be held responsible!" "I will be held responsible!" the old gentleman thundered, his face flushing with anger. "What do you mean, sir? You are offensive and insolent, sir, and I warn you to—your objection is overruled, sir. Now sit down." Barstow's eyes were glittering with excitement, and I could see faint traces of a dangerous smile on his lips as he uttered the sinister rejoinder. "Mr. Lambert, do you solemnly swear that such answers as you shall make in this cause, between the people and Alice Emory, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?" I bowed my head over the Bible while the court attendant placed in my hand, and, looking up, met Barstow's evil leer of triumph. "Now, Mr. Gilbert, proceed with your examination," directed the judge. The confusion of countless witnesses must have bewitched the chair in which I sat, for my brain whirled madly and for a moment I could not have told the prosecutor my name. "Mr. Lambert, declare any fact of which you have personal knowledge affecting this cause." Barstow's arm shot out, and his hand fluttered in protest as the prosecutor framed his question. "Don't answer, Mr. Lambert!" he shouted. "I object!" "Objection overruled," snapped the justice. "Exception!" Gilbert repeated his question, and as he phrased it I partially regained my self-possession. "Shortly after the close of the first day of this trial," I began, "I was in the neighborhood of the Shaw farmhouse, and, never having seen it, I stopped and inspected it from the outside, and while doing this I inadvertently heard a conversation between Miss Madeleine Mapes and Miss Bethna Field." "Stop!" thundered Barstow. "I object! This is not the witness' personal knowledge. It is hearsay and not binding on—" "Objection overruled and exception granted," interposed the judge. "Now, Mr. Barstow," he continued, "to save further interruption, it is understood that you object to each and every statement of this witness, and each of your objections is overruled and an exception noted. Will that satisfy you?" "Yes, sir, and I am also satisfied that the further continuance of this trial is a waste of time, and I request you to discharge the jury." "I decline to grant the request." "Exception!" "State the substance of the conversation you heard, Mr. Lambert," prompted his honor. "As nearly as I can remember," I answered, speaking to the jury, "Miss Mapes warned the other woman that if she talked too much or became confused she might be guilty of murder." "Did they talk about any particular facts in the case?" The judge's question sounded as though whispered in my ear. "Yes, the subject of the blue skirt was discussed, and Miss Field asked Miss Mapes how she was to answer

certain questions which might be asked concerning it." "Such as what?" "Miss Field seemed to fear she might be asked if she had ever seen the blue skirt, and Miss Mapes told her to say she hadn't. Then Miss Field said something about having seen it in the furnace, and Miss Mapes asserted that her companion didn't really know that it was a skirt she had seen there and advised her to deny all knowledge of it." Often as I had thought of this conversation I never realized the damping effect of it until I repeated it in court, and the silence which followed was ominous of the impression it created. "Did you hear anything else?" I hesitated as Gilbert put the question, and I saw Barstow watching me narrowly. "Yes," I answered steadily. "I heard a conversation between Miss Mapes and a man who claimed to represent Mr. Barstow, in which Miss Mapes was urged to leave the state with the Field girl and remain away until after the trial." "Did you learn the man's name?" "Miss Mapes referred to him as Mr. Hunt." Gilbert paused and, turning to one of his assistants, stooped and whispered in his ear. "Have you anything further to declare, Mr. Lambert?" he inquired. "Yes, sir," I responded. "I received information over the telephone that Miss Mapes had occupied Miss Emory's room on the night of Mr. Shaw's death, but I cannot positively swear who talked to me over the wire." Barstow rose and, moving to the far end of the jury box, stood watching me with embarrassing intensity. "The night before last, a few minutes after I received the telephone communication," I continued, "I was interviewed by a person whose voice I recognized as the man called Hunt, who had talked with Miss Mapes in the Shaw farmhouse. He introduced himself, however, as Mr. Abel Corning, one of the prosecutor's assistants, and attempted to find out what I had learned about the case outside the courtroom, saying that if I would tell him everything he would endeavor to persuade the court to excuse me from serving on the jury. I declined to give him any information, and yesterday I encountered him driving Miss Mapes and Miss Field in a closed carriage along the Pollicet road." "Did you have any conversation with him then?" "No, sir. There was an accident, as I think your honor knows, and the man was badly injured. I know nothing more about this case except what I have heard in the courtroom." Gilbert turned and nodded to his assistant, who immediately rose and left the room. "I have no further questions to ask, your honor." "Now, Mr. Barstow." The judge glanced at the defendant's counsel, who still stood beside the jury box, but the lawyer, instead of answering directly, moved to the rail and addressed the stenographer. "Counsel for the defendant does not participate in the examination of the juror," he dictated, "but he requests the court to take notice that the witness-juror carries in his pocket a newspaper containing an account of this trial and praising his efforts on behalf of the prosecution. I clapped my hand against my side and discovered with dismay that the sheet Miss Frayne had given me was protruding from my pocket. It needed only this to complete my humiliation and disgrace, and I felt my face crimsoning as I turned to the bench. "I have not read the paper, your honor," I blurted out. "It was intrusted to me for safe keeping, and I have seen nothing but the headlines and these only by accident." There was a titter in the audience, and as I glanced over the room I saw Barbara Frayne rising from her seat and instinctively I shook my head. "Do you demand the discharge of the juror upon the ground that he has this newspaper in his possession?" Barstow hesitated, watching me with an insinuating smile. "It isn't necessary," he responded at last. "One good reason is enough, and, having given more than one already, I will let well enough alone." If the judge had been upon the point of yielding, Barstow's indifferent and contemptuous answer would have changed his mind, and I could not understand the man's deliberate offensiveness. Judge Dudley addressed me. "Mr. Lambert," he began, "answer me on your oath as a juror. Have the facts and occurrences which you have related had such an effect upon your mind that you cannot render a fair and impartial verdict in this case on the sworn testimony heard by you in this courtroom?" "I would rather be excused from serving, your honor," I replied, "and I stated my position before the trial began." "You have not answered my question, sir," he responded. "Can you render an impartial verdict on the sworn testimony, disregarding all matters which have reached you, directly or indirectly, outside the courtroom?" "Yes, sir, I can." His honor nodded approvingly as I spoke and turned again to Barstow. "Have you any motion to make, sir?" he inquired.

[To be continued.]

Sell Live Chicks For Easter.

New York, March 30.—The novel though thoughtlessly cruel custom of giving live chicks as Easter remembrances has found wide popularity during the present week, hundreds of the fluffy little "peeps" being sold by downtown dealers. The chicks for convenience in carrying were usually placed in small white boxes, in which air holes were punched and tied neatly with white or lavender ribbon. These sell at a quarter each in such quantities that the supply in some shops is exhausted, and new lots from the incubators are ordered. The practice, though unique, caused considerable criticism because of the fact that the chicks were bought largely for the amusement of children. The early death of the tender gifts in the hands of unthinking youngsters is assumed, and, though the idea in the abstract is a pretty one, a continuance of the custom is expected to meet with opposition from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Our Reserve Army of Sixteen.

Washington, March 29.—Not long ago three army officers were testifying before a house committee on the matter of a bigger army, when one of these officers remarked that the reserve army of the United States numbered sixteen. Representative Augustus P. Gardner of Massachusetts happened to be present.



Photo by American Press Association. Representative Augustus P. Gardner of Massachusetts.

ent, and with his ever present sense of humor he resolved to give the sixteen a dinner. He wrote to the war department for their names and addresses, and the war department became slightly irritated. Nevertheless, the list was furnished. As Washington looks at it, Mr. Gardner has mapped out a pretty big task for himself. Inquiries by friends recently drew from him the smiling information that he had been so busy on the shipping and immigration bills that he hadn't time to think much about the dinner, but that he intended to go through with it. There is one feature, however, that is causing Mr. Gardner's friends considerable merriment, the matter of transportation. The list shows that there will be one fare to be paid from Porto Rico, two from San Francisco, another from Pike county, Pa.; ten from New York and Brooklyn and others from Indianapolis and West Philadelphia. But Mr. Gardner is rich enough to humor his whim.

Hill to Start Cattle Boom.

St. Paul, March 29.—University professors under the direction of James J. Hill will conduct a live stock campaign throughout the northwest. It was announced at the First National bank, to which institution the professors are attached.

Howard R. Smith, professor of animal husbandry of the University of Minnesota and author of "Profitable Stock Feeding," resigned his chair to direct the work, which has already started. Mr. Hill's campaign will be exhaustive in character and territory. Professor Smith began his campaign by talking to groups of farmers and bankers. He will explain how to raise stock and how to finance the enterprise.

War Horse's Life Is Twenty Days.

London, March 29.—Twenty days is the average life of a horse during the present war, according to an American horse contractor here. But the life of a horse nevertheless, he declares, is twice as long as that of a motor vehicle. The contractor said: "Some horses last longer than twenty days, but they're exceptions, for the fearful condition of the roads puts a horse out of commission in less than three weeks. Motor vehicles are subjected to terrible wear as a result of bad roads and heavy loads. At the end of ten days the average motor lorry is ready for rebuilding and often for the scrap heap." The computation is based on risks from explosives also.

To Secure Lasting Peace.

London, March 27.—An organization known as the Union of Democratic Control has been formed by a number of distinguished Britishers to lay down principles to guide the framers of the peace terms with a view to securing a lasting peace by giving the people of

conquered provinces the right to settle their own destinies and reducing international armaments. The executive committee of the union is composed of Ramsey MacDonald, M. P.; Charles Trevelyan, M. P.; Arthur Ponsonby, M. P., and Norman Angell, the leader of the international peace movement.

Women Could Have Averted War.

Paris, March 28.—Mme. Despard French, sister of General Sir John French, who is on a visit to Rome, delivered an address on the subject of "The Entente Cordiale Among Women." She said that if women had made their influence more strongly felt in public life, if they had better understood their role in all its domains, they would have been a barrier against which the ambitions of those who wanted war would have been broken.

Mosquito Extermination Raises Values.

Atlantic City, N. J., March 30.—Dr. Thomas J. Headlee, entomologist at the New Jersey experiment station, told the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination association that mosquito extermination had increased shore property values from Jersey City to Rumson by at least \$5,000,000. More than 1,000,000 persons had been relieved from the pest, he said, and the cost to none of the counties was more than 20 cents per capita. The association asked the state to increase its appropriation for mosquito extermination from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

1916 Shakespeare Celebration.

New York, March 30.—The three hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death, in 1616, will be celebrated all over this country if present plans are carried out. A preliminary meeting has been held in the Russell Sage foundation building under the auspices of the festival committee of the local Drama league. The purpose is to give pageants and processions illustrating Shakespeare's plays in many cities and towns. Leading actresses and actors will form a stock company and tour the country in these plays.

Must Swim For Diplomas.

Princeton, N. J., March 30.—Unless the students at Princeton university learn to swim before graduation several members of this year's class will not receive their diplomas. A regulation made by the faculty in 1911 required students to test in swimming. This regulation has not been carried out, but this year it is the intention of the university authorities to see that it is put into effect. Several members of the senior class have not as yet passed the test, which is to swim 200 yards, showing a mastery of two strokes.

First Hebrew American Governor.

Boise, Idaho, March 29.—Moses Alexander, Idaho's new governor, is said to be the first Jew ever elected governor of a state in the history of this country. Born in Germany sixty-one years ago, he came to this country, when a lad of fourteen, with his parents, who settled in Chillicothe, Mo. Mr. Alexander began his business career as an apprentice at \$10 per month, but in a few years had acquired a business of his own. He early took an active interest in public affairs, and in time was elected mayor of Chillicothe.

In 1891 Mr. Alexander removed to Boise, Idaho, and engaged in the clothing business. This business prospered until in time he had established a chain of seven stores in various cities of Idaho and Oregon. For the past fifteen years he has been president of the congregation Beth Israel of Boise, the only Jewish congregation in Idaho. Entering politics, he was twice elected mayor of Boise, the first time in 1897 and again in 1901. In 1908 he was nominated for gubernatorial honors by the Democrats, and, although defeated, ran 7,000 votes ahead of the national ticket. Last September Mr. Alexander received the regular Democratic nomi-



Moses Alexander of Idaho Is of Jewish Birth.

nation for governor at the state primary election. He made a canvass of the state on the issue of lower taxes and greater economy in the public service and was elected over his opponent by a good plurality, although the state is normally Republican by from 12,000 to 15,000. He was the only Democrat elected on the state ticket, and the legislature is Republican in both branches. [14 A]

Rich on Belgium's Bread Line.

New York, March 29.—Dr. Percy H. Williams of the faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, who went to Belgium in December to take charge of the feeding of nearly a million people in the province of Liege, is back home. At the offices of the commission for relief in Belgium, 71 Broadway, Dr. Williams talked of his experiences in the stricken country. The picture he painted was one of the blackest misery, a whole nation plunged into deepest despair.

"My whole impression," said Dr. Williams, "after all these weeks in Belgium is one of the deepest gloom. I never saw a smile. People go about waiting, waiting. They are neither frightened nor are they hoping. They are just waiting. It is simply a land of 7,000,000 people who are living on black bread and soup. Many of their homes are in ruins. Many of their close relatives are dead or lost. There is no work. For example, I went into a lace store one day at Liege. There were several clerks, but they told me I was the only person who had been in the store that day.

"Another impression; it is a country of old people and of children. There were over 700,000 children in Belgium before the war between the ages of one and nine years, and they are there now. At Vise, for example, where there is no longer a house, where the whole little city is gone, I saw children, children everywhere. They are living in cellars and going to school in sidetracked and wrecked passenger cars. We gave them two meals of food a day so that they might keep in school.

The Man Who Succeeded Cole Blaise.

Charleston, S. C., March 29.—Richard Irvine Manning of Sumter, who succeeded Cole I. Blaise as governor of South Carolina, is a banker and planter, and many of his ancestors have been prominent in the affairs of the state. Mr. Manning was born in South Carolina in 1850 and was educated in the common schools of Sumter county and the University of Virginia. He left college before being graduated and returned home to be a



Richard I. Manning, Now Chief Executive of South Carolina.

planter. His ambition was to enter the law, but he was obliged to give up the study of this profession because of poor eyesight. Mr. Manning went to the Baltimore convention as a delegate at large from South Carolina. He was an original Wilson man and with the other members of his delegation cast every one of his votes in the convention for Woodrow Wilson.

Boston Is Still the Hub.

Boston, March 29.—Pupils of Boston get more instruction in the "three R's" than those of almost any other large city in the country, according to a report of Frank Ballou, director of the municipal bureau of educational measurement. Investigation showed, he said, 20 per cent of the time in grammar schools in Boston is devoted to reading, while the average in fifty other cities is 21.5 per cent. In arithmetic and writing the Boston percentage is slightly above the average. Pupils there give much less time to spelling and more to science than elsewhere.

Elgin Marbles in Safe Place.

London, March 28.—For the first time since 1816, when they were taken from Greece, the Elgin marbles, one of the most valuable collections of statuary in the world, have been removed from the room in the British museum, visited for nearly a century by connoisseurs from all over the world. The collection has now been placed in the basement as a precaution against German aeroplane raids, but the public will be able, owing to clever lighting arrangements, to inspect it as usual.

Women to Act Against War.

Amsterdam, March 28.—An international women's congress to discuss what steps shall be taken by women for the prevention of future wars and for the promotion of the political liberation of the women of all countries was decided upon at a meeting of representatives of leading women's organizations in both neutral and warring countries held here. The congress will be called to meet at an early date in some neutral country.