

TODAY'S SHORT STORY—"THE LINGERERS"

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NEW YORK HAS BECOME WORLD'S GAMBLING CAPITAL

New York, Aug. 3.—New York is the new gambling center of the world.

This is the humiliating and indisputable fact, which America has now got to face—that New York, the pride of our great nation, has come to be in a class with Monte Carlo, with Paris, and with other ill-reputed European gaming resorts—has, in fact, outstripped foreign cities in the number and size of the houses of chance within her gates.

The day has passed when the metropolis of the United States could lay claim to being morally clean. This fact seems to have been only too evident, by the results of Dist. Atty. Whitman's investigation into the murder of gambler Herman Rosenthal. For these results show, if the triple confession of Jack Rose, Harry Vallon and Bridgey Webber is to be believed, that the proprietors of Manhattan's gambling houses pay out each year in graft almost \$5,000,000 in order to be "protected" by the "system."

And the question instantly arises, if dealers in chance can afford to pay out such a tremendous sum of money in graft, how much must they take in from

their victims?

There are various answers to this being made in New York today. But whatever this sum total is, be it one or two hundred millions a year—and it may be as much as that—it is certainly so great that the jackpots of Monte Carlo and its allies dwindle to foolish little piles beside it, and place New York in the very center of the world's gambling map.

The gambling palaces and dives of New York are scattered. They stretch from the very doors of proud, aristocratic Fifth avenue down to the East and West sides of the island where the wharf rats run. But most of them are grouped about Longacre Square, the famous center of the white light district at Broadway and 42d street.

A majority of them are but a stone's throw from the Metropolitan hotel, where Herman Rosenthal was shot to the death by the occupants of the drab gray murder car.

Most of these gambling dens have a middle class look of respectability about them, not too ornate nor too plain. They are housed in the unobtrusive brown stone fronts which "society" liv-