SYNOPSIS

garet marries Luke Maddison, after I presume?" becomes involved with the Joe Con- light upon them." that Margaret has relented and has returned to his bankers all the money he gave her, to the dismay of one Danton Morell, her dead brother's friend, concerning whom Gunner Haynes, an American jewel thief, whom Maddison had once befriended, has been making inquiries. Detective Bird of Scotland Yard, known also as The Sparrow, is likewise interested in Morell. Maddison goes to his own old bachelor quarters, is taken for a burglar, escapes from the police and tries to get in touch with Detective Bird. The Connors gang

Detective Bird that the man concerned in the jewel robbery, whom she ing around fo r two years with the woman whose accomplice he was. Gunner Haynes drops into Joe Connor's hiding-place just as Connor's men are fastening Luke's feet with gave away, because the date it was had recently acquired a big rebuilt chains to a large block of rock salt, delivered is written on the tab, and monoplane which was capable of a intending to throw him in the river, where the salt will dissolve, the chains go." drop off and the body will be found without marks of violence. Haynes

learn of this, sandbag and imprison

him in an underground cell near the

river where he is certain to be drown-

ed when the tide rises. Meantime

Margaret, revisiting Luke's old rooms

finds a sheet of paper on which Luke

had begun a letter to his friend and

lawyer saying that he is in desperate

trouble. Margaret's joy over the re-

covery that Luke is alive and in Lon-

don is tempered by the statement of

sees two men climbing the fence. The Gunner takes Luke to his room and learns from him the reason Margaret hated him was because she blamed him for her brother's death.

some blank checks to one of which he port-I interviewed his servant subforges Luke's name, and tries to get sequently, and he told me there was NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

sider what you're doing!" suggested panic.

Luke is-he was on a barge. didn't tell me that Maddison had me, Mrs. Maddison?"

nothing about it till Connor had found conviction. him. I swear to you this is the "Where is Connor?" she asked.

mation I have. I didn't believe him, Luke. and probably it's a lie he told me." She was puzzled as to the arrange- to. Neurly hree million dollars meant what she had said. She did not know what to do.

"Find Haynes?" he almost shouted. "You don't imagine I would commun- effect. icate with that fellow, do you? He's a dangerous man, Margaret-"

"He's dangerous-you oughtn't to have any dealings with him." He did not attempt to deny the

theft of the checks. "You don't know where Mr. Maddison is at all?" ison is at all?"
He accepted the corrected relation- ONE BEST

ship iwthout murmur. "No, Mrs. Maddison, I've no idea. Connor's been looking for him all

When she returned home she found the Sparrow waiting for her on the doorstep. The sight of a large kitbag at his feet surprised her, and when he carried it into the house and into the little study on the ground floor, she was to have a shock. She did not recognize the crumpled clothes

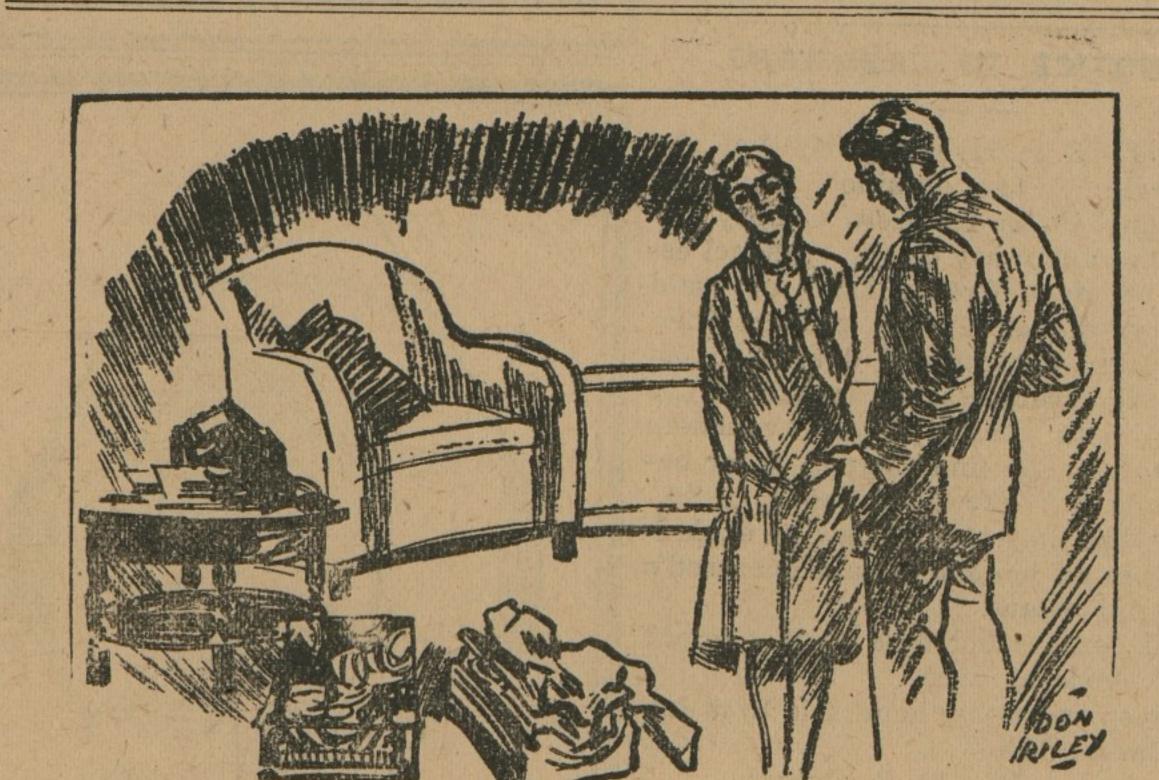
he took from the bag. "These clothes were found in the possession of a river thief, who was Kent Building & Loan Co. trying to sell them this morning," he said. "He didn't know that your husband's name was stitched in the inside pocket."

"My husband's name?" she gasped, turning pale. "Where did he get them ' "That's what I want to know. The

he has given her everything he owns. Was there a note of sarcasm in his ous. She leaves him, telling him she has voice? She thought she detected it, Danton Morell was in some ways a ting out of London, unless you take Danty's sole luggage. His servitor he

yarn he tells is that last night he then he was most anxious not to re- I sent to the bank and half the busies Behind him stalked the grim shadow Rex Leferre forges the name of picked up a man who was wet through new acquaintance with Scotland in London are looking for him. They of vengeance, and every second he Luke Maddison, wealthy banker and and who had come out of the river, Yard. Things had gone badly with know who it is, too-that's the worst his sister Margaret's fiance, to a and took him to a house. We've since him; he owed a very large sum of of it. You're in this, Danty." large check. He is found dead with verified that—though from the de- money which had to be paid in the "We're both in it, aren't we?" a note in his handwriting accusing scription I've had it couldn't possibly City on the following day; and now, snarled the other. "I'm getting out Maddison ofh aving ruined him. Mar- be Mr. Maddison, who is still abroad, with the added possibility of police of London to-night."

ruined him to revenge her brother. and very wisely did not answer. | careful man. However extravagant he a rattler." And then suddenly Luke, bewildered, wanders about "The man said the clothes were might be, he had reserved for himself "How are you going?" London, is attacked by thugs who given to him, but that of course is the a fat nest egg in cash which in spite to invent a method of occasion but just hours which intervened before he left take him for a detective, recovers in usual yarn. I have reason to believe of all temptation, he had never to invent a method of escape, but just England forever. hospital to find he is known as that they were stolen while the own- touched. He had collected the money now he needed the association of Con-"Smith." In this new character he er was in bed. Can you throw any that day from two or three accounts nor. Connor was not above using a



"My husband's name?" she gasped

was the suit into which he had which exhibition flights were given. other sarcastically. "Do you want the now knows was Luke, had been go- changed when he broke into his flat. Danty had found it expedient to fin- road to yourself?" "What do you make of that, Mrs. ance the small company which owned arranged his flight. This was facil- peared. She shook her head helplessly.

He looked at her keenly. trol and necessities for the journey. "There's a lot of mystery about defies the Connor gang and takes Maddison into the yard, pausing as he this husband of yours, Mrs. Maddi- He certainly did not anticipate takson, and I think you're in some kind ing a companion with him, but he was of trouble. I'd like to help you if I not the only panic-stricken man

She was going to speak, but he held

up his hand to stop her. a passport in one of the drawers of

voice was tremulous, his whole air help him are the police. I know him well enough to be sure he wouldn't "I swear to you I don't know where hold up Taffanny's. If it's a question of impersonation—we can "Connor had him there. The swine more than useful. Won't you tell the Mutual Fire signed a check. All he told me was She was silent. With a shake of

that he jumped into the river and got his head the detective took his deaway or was drowned-I don't know parture, carrying with him the suit which. That's the truth. I knew of clothes and a very deep-seated

It was a curious coincidence that he should have brought those crump- INSURES PROPERTY AGAINET led garments to the house when. "I don't know. He was here this neatly packed away in a new suit- ALL POLICY HOLDERS PARTIC morning, and told me about Luke case in her bedroom, was the change getting away. That's all the infor- of garments she had arranged for

He saw she was undecided and ments she could make that would be worth of property insured. eagerly sought to turn her fro mher most convenient. She decided ultiintention. He had no doubt that she mately upon leaving the suitcase at James P. Brown, Church Hill; R a railway cloakroom. The ticket G. Nicholson, J. D. Bacchus, F. C could be sent to Luke as soon as he Usilton, T. W. Elianon, Jr., Allan "Could you find Haynes for me?" was discovered. She waited for the Harris, Eben F. Perkins, Edward W night to come to carry this plan into Emory, F. Medferd Brooks, Chester

town: Howard Turner, Betterton: The night brought its problems for Wm. A. Hyland, Galena; Dudley Danty Morell. That afternoon, after Roe. Sudlersville. "Mrs. Maddison," she said coldly. Margaret Maddison had left him, he Applications for insurance to be made a discovery which turned him made to-Ellsworth C. Bowers, sick with apprehension. He had lost Lynch, Md.; George W. Owens, Bethis hold on Margaret; at any moment terton, Md.; B. W. Duling, Milling-

Md.; and Ehen F. Perkins, Chestertown, Md.

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which he ran in an assumed name. gun at a pinch, and, moreover, hated nors gang, who mistake him for an She shook her head. It was a piti- Nothing was needed now but to fol- Gunner Haynes. Australian crook named Smith, and able confession, but she knew she low the line of retreat he had plan- "I'm going by airplane from Elis made an unwilling accomplice in a could not even recognize an old suit ned. There was a small aerodrome ford," he said. "We've got the Gunjewel robbery. He does not know of clothes worn by her husband. It on the outskirts of London, from ner to thank for this. He squealed."

"It couldn't be a suit your husband itated by the fact that the company it must have been new a month a- long flight. Danty, who had decided upon Switzerland for his first hop, gave orders for the storage of pe-

Then Haynes calls on Margaret and "Don't tell me anything until I have first attention was directed to the litoffers to help her and her husband. told you just how much I know." He the box in which he kept the most Maddison is kidnapped from Hay- ticked off the facts on the fingers of dangerous of his correspondence. He p. m. ne's rooms. Meantime, Haynes gets his hand. "I know your husband dis- brought this into the dining room beinto Danty Morell's rooms and finds appeared the day after your marriage. fore he discovered that the lock had there proofs that the letter which like flat and that when the police ar-Rex Leferre had left for Margaret his flat, and that when the police ar- he threw up the lid, shook out the was o forgery. Rex had been try- rived they recognized the man who contents. The one packet of letters ing to warn his sister against Morell had been concerned in a robbery that that he had been mad to keep was not against Luke. And Morell gets afternoon. I know that among the gone! And the little telephone slip into Margaret's rooms and steals things stolen from his flat was a pass- that also had disappeared. His hands were shaking so that he could hardly hold the papers he was examining. There was no need to speculate upon the identity of the man who had forced that box. The

the desk. Now, if there were any chance—and it seems one of those "For God's sake. Margaret, con- fantastic theories that writers make Gunner had been seen in the neigha lot of money from—that this man borhood: Pi Coles had told him that, She saw he was really alarmed; his is Mr. Maddison, the best people to and it had been the Gunner who had made this search and found the documents. anty Morell saw death

she might go to the police. and just ton, Md.; Frank H. Ruth, Galena,

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voice he could have cried aloud for "What's the matter with you?" asked Connor, when they were back ed Connor ten minutes later. "The little car?" in the room.

"I've had a bit of a shock and I'm He pushed his companion aside and not particularly well. You know peered. they're after those kites?" happy-looking.

intervention, his position was peril- Connor laughed raucously. "You've got a fine chance of get-

"He's never stopped squealing," said Connor without heat. "Where do you land in your flying machine?" Danty told him his destination. "That'll do for me," said Connor.

He looked at the papers on the "Having a burn-up?" he asked pleasantly. And then: "How much stuff have you got?" Here Danty lied. He could not tell

the truth about money. The conference was a brief one. They agreed to visit the aerodrome that evening and make final preparations for their journey. The journey through the surborbs into outer London was a silent one, now and again Danty lifted the flap at the back of the hired car in which the ywere traveling, and peered along the darken-

"What's the matter with you?" growled Connor. "There's a car, a two-seater, fol-

"Why shouldn't it?" demanded the

journey were not easily made. The



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grinning at him; hypnotized into sheer pilot had only just been communi-inaction. When there came a knock cated with. He was on a holiday in

his chair, a shivering wreck of a man, "It's a good job we came, or we not daring to open to the visitor. | might have been in Queer Street," He calmed himself sufficiently to said Connor as they were driving go to the door and demand who was back. "What time did you say you'd there, and when he heard Connor's be here?" Steam---Hot Water Heating

"About midnight." "What are you looking for?" ask-

"There's a motor lorry: has that Connor himself was not particularly got anything on us?" he demanded. Danty said nothing. No man could "I know. They've stopped a check know the terror that was in his heart. expected to see the hawklike face of the Gunner peering into his from the

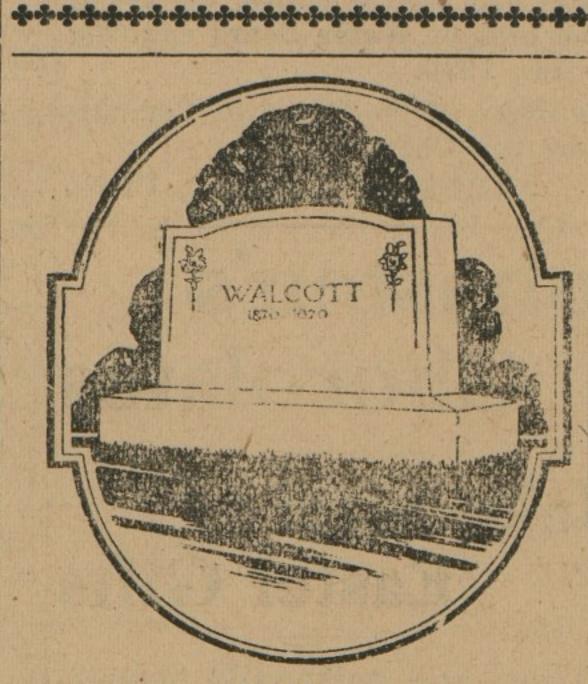
Danty did not go near his flat. He telephoned to Pi Coles and they met in the park, Pi bringing with him an rewarded liberally. There was noth-

CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK

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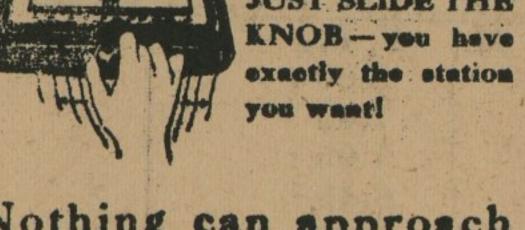
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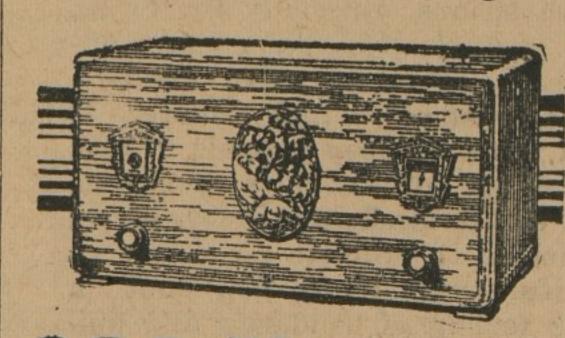
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