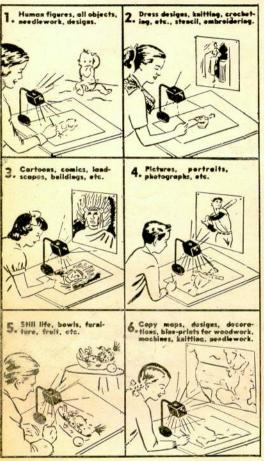


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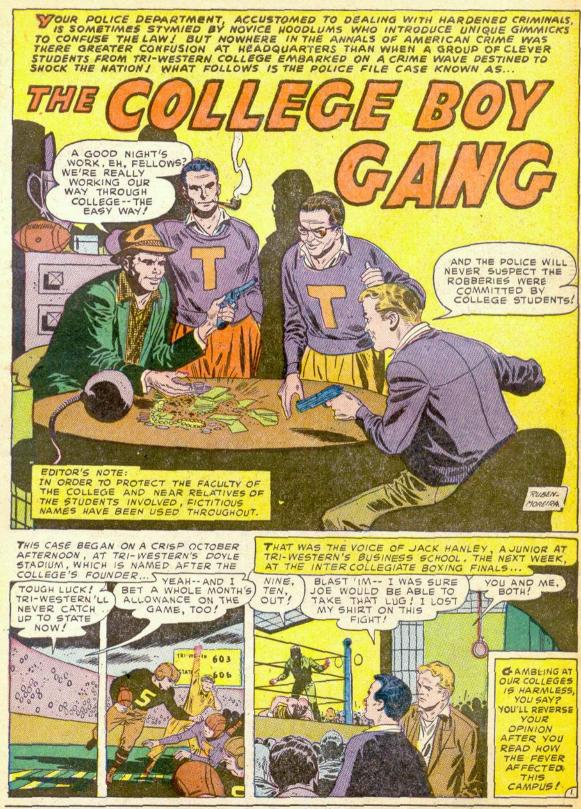
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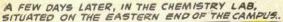
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SUDDENLY ...

HEY, WATCH OUT! THAT CHLOROSTICOL POWDER IS WORTH A FORTUNE!

IT SURE IS -- / WAIT A MINUTE, THAT GIVES A MAKE SOME FAST MONEY! LET'S HOOK SOME OF



DON'T BE A CHUMP! THE 4 PROFESSOR COUNTS EVERY BUT -- DRUG GRAIN WE USE! STORES USE THIS STUFF FOR PRESCRIPTIONS!

IF -- IF YOU' FELLOWS ARE GAME --?

YOU CAN COUNT ME IN, JACK!



BUT, LISTEN, WE'VE GOT TO PLAY IT SMART! WE'RE NOT JUST A BUNCH OF DUMB WE'LL -- WE'LL HOODS! USE OUR

NOW YOU'RE COLLEGE EDUCATION TALKING, JACK! MAYBE WE CAN TEACH THE LAW A TRICK OR TO OUT WIT THE COPS



ACCORDINGLY, ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 23rd, WAS RECORDED THE FIRST OFFICIAL ENTRY OF THIS CASE ON THE POLICE BLOTTER, WHEN ... S

HERE ITIE! NEVER MIND THE ABOUT PENNY-ANTE IN THE CASH REGISTER! \$500 WORTH! CHLOROSTICOL



LIEUTENANT!



SAM SHERIDAN, THE DRUG STORE CLERK, LOST NO TIME IN NOTIFYING HEADQUARTERS, BUT WHEN THE MESSAGE WAS SHORT-WAVED TO A NEARBY SQUAD CAR...

THERE'S A HOLD-UP FOR US, BUT SQUAD CAR NOB WHERE? FINE PROCEED AT ONCE TIME FOR TO REPORTED THIS RADIO

ROBBERY AT .. (SPUTTER)...(CRACKLE) CCRACKLE).



LATER, WHEN LT. AUGUST SNYDER, SON OF CENTERVILLE'S FORMER POLICE CHIEF, INVESTIGATED ... NO LUCK

MM ... DID YOU CHECK THEY ONLY TOOK CHLOROSTICOL, SO IT WAS RADIO CAUSED BY WHO KNOW STATIC UNKNOWN SERGEANT? INTERFERENCE! CHEMISTRY















A SIMILARITY BETWEEN THIS
HOLD-UP AND THE ONE IN THAT
DRUG STORE! I'VE GOT A
THEORY, BUT I'LL HAVE TO
TALK TO THE CHIEF ABOUT
IT FIRST, HAMMOND!
HAMD REPORT IN
WHEN YOU'RE
FINISHED!

MM ... IT STRIKES ME THERE'S

SHORTLY AFTER, IN POLICE CHIEF ROY SYMBOL'S OFFICE...

CHIEF, THAT CHLOROSTICOL CAPER POINTED TO A CROOKED CHEMIST WHO KNEW ITS REAL VALUE, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WATCH OIL HOLD-UP POINTED TO A HOOD IN THE JEWELRY FIELD! BUT THERE'S ONE PLACE WHERE BOTH OF THESE SUBSTANCES ARE

USED -- THE LABS

AT TRI-WESTERN! MM...

POSSIBLE! THERE WERE FOUR
CROOKS IN BOTH CRIMES -AND THEY MIGHT COME FROM
TRI-WESTERN AT THAT! BUT
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO
TEST YOUR THEORY, AUGUST
--BY YOUR
GOING TO NOW, WAIT A
COLLEGE! MINUTE, CHIEF!









THUS, LT. AUGUST SNYDER, WITH THE AID OF COLLEGE PRESIDENT COLLING, TWO DAYS LATER WENT THROUGH THE FORMALITY OF ENROLLING AT TRI-WESTERN, WHERE...

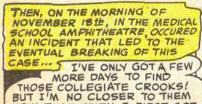


NO, MR. PRESIDENT-THE ONLY SCHOOL I EVER WENT TO WAS THE COLLEGE OF HARD KNOCKS! AND YOU'D BETTER STOP CALLING ME LIEUTENANT!











THESE MEDICAL STUDENTS ARE WATCHING AN ACTUAL OPERATION, WHICH IS BEING TELEVISED FROM AN EASTERN HOSDITAL TO MED SCHOOLS ALL OVER! THE STUDENTS LEARN WHILE WATCHING A GREAT

























WE'LL BE OF ALL THAT BEFORE YOU WENT INTO THE BUSINESS DISGRACED! KICKED OUT OF CRIME, SON! OF COLLEGE! LET'S GO!

LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS ...

IT WAS THAT CYCLOTRON IN THE PHYSICS LAB THAT TIPPED THE WHOLE CASE, CHIEF! WHEN I SAW WHAT INTERFERENCE IT CAUSED ON THE TV SCREEN, I REASONED IT WOULD DO THE SAME THING TO OUR SHORT-WAVE RADIO SYSTEM. SO SOUND LIKE A I SURMISED CORRECTLY! REGULAR COLLEGE



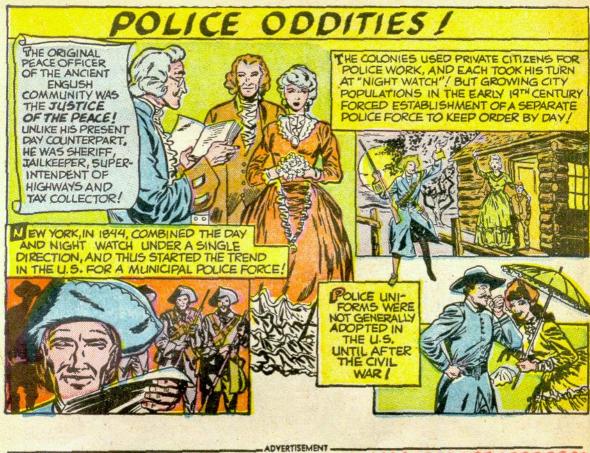
THERE IS AN AMUSING SEQUEL TO THIS CASE,

WEEKS LATER, THE CASE WAS OFFICIALLY BROUGHT TO A CLOSE, AT FIRST CRIMINAL COURT, WHERE AND BEFORE PASSING SENTENCE ON THESE COLLEGE BOYS,

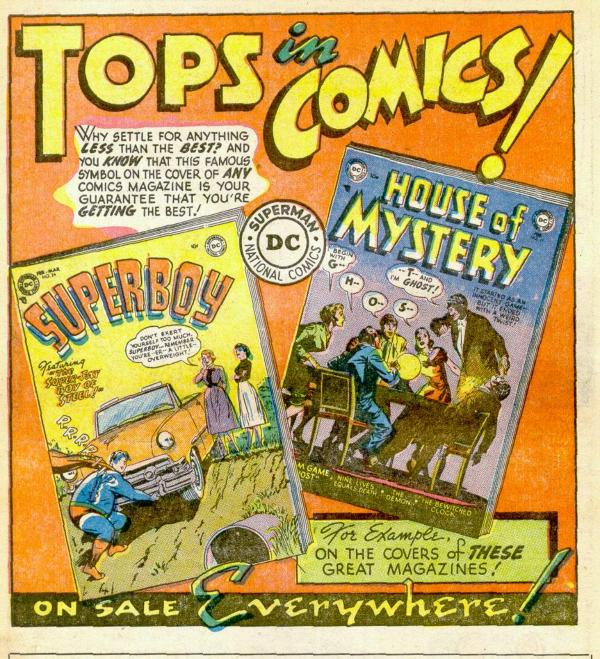
1 WISH TO POINT OUT THAT YOU PARENTS
ARE BASICALLY AT FAULT! THE FATHERAND-SON RELATIONSHIP SHOULD NOT END YOU PARENTS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION ..











STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39. United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE DWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF GANGBUSTERS, published Bi-Monthly at New York, N. Y. for October 1, 1952.

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3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding I per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: 10.64.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stock-holder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs shows the affairt's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

J. S. LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of September, 1952. ALFRED B. YAFFE, Notary Public (My Commission expires March 30, 1954).





MAGINE YOURSELF TO BE A CRIME REPORTER! YOU'VE GOT THE GOODS ON THE MOST COLD-BLOODED GANG THAT EVER HELD A CITY IN ITS GRIP! YOU WANT TO SPILL YOUR STORY ... BUT THE MOBSTERS HAVE THREATENED REPRISALS AGAINST YOUR FAMILY IF YOU DARE TO REVEAL THEM! WHAT WOULD YOU DO? THINK IT OVER ... THEN READ THIS STORY OF A NEWSMAN WHO FACED THE DECISION OF HIS LIFE WHEN HE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN HIS LOVE FOR HIS FAMILY AND HIS DUTY AS A CITIZEN, BEFORE HE COULD SIGN HIS SENSATIONAL EXPOSE, AND SAY...

"I WAS A STAR WITNESS!"



OKAY, EVERYBODY ...

THIS CASE OPENS ON OCTOBER 5th, WHEN
THREE THIEVES BLANDLY ENTERED THE JEWELRY
FIRM OF COE & HAND, ON 37th STREET...



JUST KEEP YOUR HANDS LAMSON! HEAR THAT, ON TOP OF THE COUNTERS, AND NOBODY WILL IN THE PAPER! THE CLERKS RECOGNIZED YOU!

IT'S ROCKY







FOR THE REST OF









IF ROCKY KNOWS READY TO BUST OUT WITH THEIR EXPOSE? PETER MAR BUS SIZZLING E CRIME .. STORY OF W RUNNING O CRIME-RESERVE YOU

TIME IN CONTACTING PETE THAT SAME DAY ...

LOOK, PETE ... YOU SHOULD'VE LET US KNOW WHEN YOU PLANNED TO RUN THOSE ARTICLES! WE'LL WANT YOU TO BE OUR STAR WITNESS TO GET A GRAND JURY INDICTMENT OF ROCKY! MEAN WHILE, HOW ABOUT LETTING ME TAKE YOU IN .. SAFE CUSTODY, YOU KNOW!



NO GOOD , JOE! I'LL HAVE TO BE ON THE OUTSIDE TO COMPLETE MY STORIES ... AND YOUR CASE! I'LL BE GLAD TO TESTIFY FOR YOU. THOUGH!

AT THE GAME TIME, AT 485 TONSON STREET ...

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, BOSS? IT LOOKS LIKE THIS PETER MARLOW HAS THE GOODS ON US!

HE WON'T TALK! NO ONE EVER SQUEALED ON US YET, DID THEY? WE GOT WAYS OF SHUTTING 'IM UP ...



FIND OUT WHO THIS MARLOW IS ... ALL ABOUT 'IM ... WHERE HE LIVES, HOW MUCH MONEY HE MAKES ... THE WHOLE WORKS! UNDERSTAND?







PETER MARLOW LIVED IN A MODEST ONE-FAMILY HOUSE IN THE SUBURBAN FOX HILLS SECTION OF TOWN, WITH HIS WIFE AND YOUNG DAUGHTER...

HOW'S I'M AFRAID THAT'LL HAVE TO THE WAIT UNTIL AFTER I FINISH NOVEL COMING ALONG, DEAR?

BUT DON'T WORRY... I'LL

GET BACK TO IT! I DON'T

INTEND TO SPEND THE

REST OF MY LIFE SLAVING

AWAY FOR \$80 A WEEK,

AND... I'LL GET THE

PHONE, HONEY!



A REPORTER OFTEN GETS HIS TIPS ON STORIES ANONYMOUSLY... A SWIFT, WHISPERED WORD ...THEN A CLICK! WHICH IS WHAT HAPPENED THAT PARTICULAR NIGHT...



JUST TO GET ACQUAINTED! OH



NO, THANKS ...
WHAT'S ON YOUR
MIND, ROCKY?
WHY'D YOU
CALL ME DOWN
HERE?

YEAH ... I ALSO WANTED YOU
TO DO ME A LITTLE FAVOR! NOT
MUCH! JUST FORGET ABOUT
WRITIN' THOSE LITTLE
STORIES ABOUT ME, THAT'S
ALL! COURSE, I'M PREPARED
TO PAY FOR ANYTHING YOU DO!











I DON'T KNOW, ROCKY! THERE'S SOME THINGS A GUY THAT LL TURN MIKE, THAT MEAN MORE DOWN 50 GRAND TO A GUY THAN MONEY! JUST LIKE THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW WON'T SCARE THAT!



ROCKY'S MEANING BECAME CLEAR LATE NEXT AFTERNOON IN THE STAR-TIMES BUILDING CITY



TAKE IT EASY, SAM ...) YEAH, BUT ... (COUGH) ... IT'S ... (COUGH!) ... ONLY ... (COUGH! COUGH!) ... A ... TEAR-GAS .. CCOUGH ; ... BOMB ..!

IT MIGHT'VE BEEN .. (COUGH) ... AN EXPLOSIVE BOMB! CCOUGH? THOSE GUYS MEAN BUSINESS!



THAT NIGHT, AT HIS HOME, AND MINUTES AFTER DETECTIVE SCANLAN HAD ARRIVED, PETE RECEIVED A SECOND CALL ...

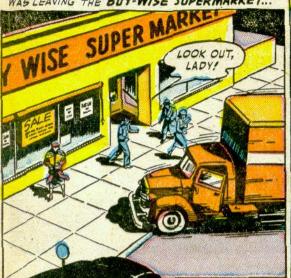








THEN, ON THURSDAY MORNING, AS EDNA MARLOW WAS LEAVING THE BUY-WISE SUPERMARKET...



THE TWO-TON TRUCK MISSED HER BY MERE INCHES,
AS SHE THREW HERSELF OUT OF ITS PATH...

I SAW
THE DRIVER
JUMP OUT JUST
AS THE TRUCK'S
WHEELS TURNED
TOWARD THE SIDEWALK, OFFICER!

WAS IT ... THAT'S WHAT I'D I COULDN'T SAY! I LIKE TO KNOW! DIDN'T SEE HIS FACE, OFFICER? THE DRIVER JUMP, WHAT DID MIXED UP IN WHAT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS!

AND THAT EVENING, MARLOW RECEIVED HIS THIRD PHONE MESSAGE ... L HELLO? HELLO? WAIT A WE COULD'VE KILLED MINUTE ... DON'T HANG HER EASY, MARLOW! UP YET ..! HOW MANY CHANCES DO YOU THINK WE'RE GOING to give you? DROP THAT > STORY MARLOW DROP IT!

I'M DROPPING THE STORY, YOU CAN'T LET US SCANLAN! I DON'T CARE ABOUT MYSELF... BUT I'LL PUT A 24-HOUR WHEN THEY THREATEN MY WIFE, YOU CAN COUNT ME OUT! GET YOURSELF ANOTHER STAR WITNESS!

THAT'S JUST SWELL...BUT
YOU CAN'T GUARD US DAY AND
NIGHT FOR THE REST OF OUR
LIVES, CAN YOU? AND ONE
OF THESE DAYS, YOU'LL BE
LOOKING THE OTHER WAY...
JUST FOR AN INSTANT...AND
THAT'S WHEN EDNA MIGHT
GET IT! COUNT ME OUT,

ROT LIKE YOU...
RUNNING AWAY
FROM A FIGHT
THAT'S RIGHT' YOU
NEVER DID IT BEFORE
... AND YOU WON'T
DO IT NOW!

NO PETE ... THAT'S





















AS PETE EMERGED FROM THE 14 5 STREET SIDE OF



AS THE MURDER CAR CAME CLOSER, HE MADE ONE INEFFECTUAL ATTEMPT TO SAVE HIMSELF ...



CLAWING DESPERATELY FOR A HIGHER RUNG, HE HEARD THE SQUEAL OF CAR BRAKES, AND

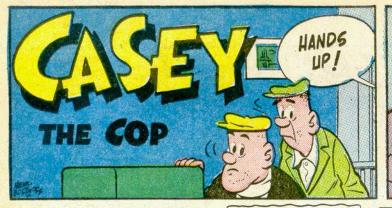




AS SUDDENLY AS IT STARTED, THE GUNFIRE ENDED, AND PETE MARLOW, HIS HEART POUNDING LIKE A TRIP HAMMER, TURNED ...



RONALD "ROCKY" LAMSON AND THE SURVIVING MEMBERS OF HIS GANG WENT ON TRIAL FOR THEIR LIVES ON MARCH 22 Md IN THE SECOND CRIMINAL COURT, AND ON THE SOLE TESTIMONY OF STAR WITNESS PETER MARLOW, WERE FOUND GUILTY ON ALL COUNTS! END





THAT MUST BE A NEW SEGRET WEAPON. IT'LL PROBABLY MELT US, OR SOMETHING!



OH THIS? MY GUN JAMMED, SO I GRABBED IT FROM THE SHOWCASE OF THE PLACE THEY WERE ROBBING - THE ACE TOY COMPANY!

OFFER LIMITED TO THE U.S.A.



INDESTRUCTIBLE PRINTS ...



THEY SUBJECTED THEIR FINGERS TO THE ACTION OF BOILING WATER, HOT OIL, AND TO PRESSURE ON HOT PLATES!



WHILE THESE MEASURES DESTROYED THE MARKS ON THE OUTER SKIN, THE NATURAL PATTERNS ON THE UNDER-LYING SKIN WERE UNAFFECTED!



AS SOON AS
THE WOUNDS
OR BURNS
HEALED THE
ORIGINAL
PATTERN
RETURNED
IN ALL ITS
DETAIL!





"YOUR HAIR'S BEST FRIEND"

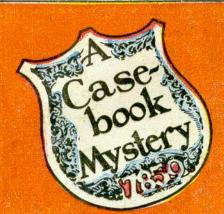
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The Case of the

est YOUR Wits against a Criminal:





LATER, AS NEWSMEN DROP IN TO ASK THE ROUTINE QUESTIONS BE-

YES, GENTLEMEN, WE IN THE MORNING! -AND REST ASSURED, I'LL MAKE IT! AND WHEN I REACH THE PEAK, I SHALL NAME IT, "BONET MOUNTAIN AFTER MYSELF!

I LIKE THAT! I'LL PROBABLY HAVE TO PULL THE OLD GOAT UP THE MOUNTAIN BUT, HE'LL GET ALL THE GLORY

JUST AS HE HAS ON OTHER



SLEEP ... 5 HE HAS THE MONEY TO FINANCE THESE CLIMBS, HE GETS ALL THE GLORY THAT RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO ME! MM -- HE FORGOT TO SIGN

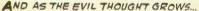


WAIT A MINUTE! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA! MAYBE THERE IS A WAY FOR ME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION --

































ALL HE DID WAS SIGN IT,

AND THEN HE SAID ...









HOW ABOUT IT, READER? DOES
THE HEARTLESS MURDERER GET
AWAY WITH HIS SEEMINGLY FOOLPROOF CRIME? OR DID HE MAKE
ONE SLIP THAT WILL GIVE HIM AWAY?
GO OVER THE FACTS CAREFULLY
BEFORE YOU READ THE NEXT PAGE.









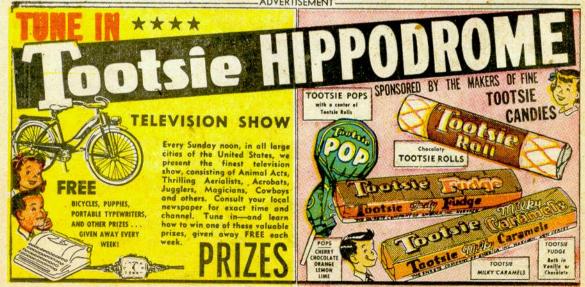
THEN, WHEN
BONET FELT
HE COULDN'T
GO ON IN THE
RAGING
BLIZZARD,
AND IN THE
COLD THAT
DROPPED
BETWEEN
35 AND 40
BELOW ZERO,
HE SIGNED
THE WILL!

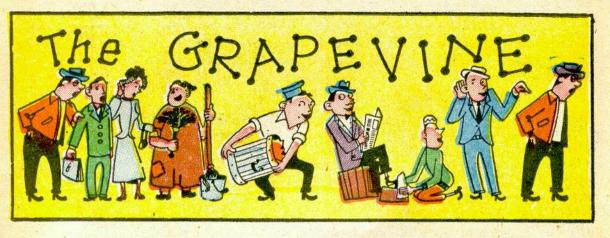
YES! I KNOW IT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUS, BUT THAT IS EXACTLY HOW IT HAPPENED, AND YOU CAN'T PROVE OTHER-WISE!

I BELIEVE I CAN, JULES!
YOU SEE, BONET COULDN'T CONFESS...
HAVE SIGNED THE WILL UP I WAS SICK
THERE! FOR AT THAT OF DRAGGING
TEMPERATURE, THE INK
IN THE PEN WOULD HAVE
FROZEN! WHAT DO YOU HE GOT ALL THE
SAY NOW?
GLORY!



-ADVERTISEMENT-





TABLES TURNED

Any policeman who has served for a number of years can tell a strange story of his own experience, but perhaps the strangest of all can be narrated by the members of an upper New York City precinct, who were involved a few years ago in a rash of holdups committed by a lone thief. The bandit was finally caught, and the whole matter would have followed a routine pattern—arraignment, trial and sentence—except for one, solitary, maddening thing: not one of his victims would identify him!

Hour after hour, storekeepers who had trembled at the sight of this homicidal miscreant, who had threatened them with an automatic if they didn't turn over their cash register receipts, refused to recognize him. The lights in the lineup room grew hot, but not as much as the tempers of the arresting officers and the detectives. It was all too obvious to them that the shopkeepers were intimidated, afraid of the consequences when the thief ultimately would be released from jail. Accusation meant death at his hands.

One of the detectives slipped off his jacket and motioned the others to do the same. "We're going to keep at this again and again until we get a positive identification. Thi mugg is our man, and we're going to keep questioning these people until one admits having been robbed by him!"

The frightened storekeepers were herded into the stuffy room, and the detective faced them grimly.

"Now, listen! None of you has to be afraid. The law will protect you. The only thing one of you has to do is say that he's the robber, and you can all go home," he sleaded, in a harsh, strained voice.

But the group paid him no heed. The detective's voice spiraled into a shout. "Okay, if that's how you want it, we'll keep at it right through the night and into the next day, if necessary. I'm warning you! Now, will one of you—"

But he was interrupted by the culprit himself who stepped to the rim of the rostrum, out of the glare, wiping his moist forehead. "Look, I don't know about you folks out there, but I'm gettin' tired standin' up here, fryin'. So look, lieutenant, if they're clammin' up, why don't you let me finger them? Then, we can all knock off!"

And before the astonished officer could splutter a reply, the thief crooked a finger at one of his pale victims, and added: "You remember me, don't you? I took your tailor shop for \$55 on a Saturday night. It was the last of the month, and you said you needed the dough to meet some checks."

To another: "I'm the guy who came into your butcher store and asked for hamburger meat. When you went to get it outta the ice-box, I locked you in and cleaned out your register."

To a third: "I got 38 smackers from your candy store. It was as easy as takin' candy from a baby."

And so it went, the complete confession

with details down to the last dime. After a while, when each of the victims present had been accounted for, the lineup room was cleared, the tormented shopowners went home, and the weary thief was led away to a cell to await trial.

BOOTLEG FISH

If you're driving north from Florida, don't be surprised if game wardens ask you to pause so that they can comb your car at the Georgia border. The reason behind this act is their search for illicit cargo, fresh-water game fish scooped up illegally from Florida's lakes.

Bootlegged fish pose a constant problem for the state's Game and Fresh Water Commission who not only must protect their charges for sportsmen but also must keep the population of each lake constant.

Bootleggers—or fishnappers, to be more exact—don't bother to catch each fish individually with a hook. Countless wriggling thousands are netted by the hour. The fish then are packed in ice. Stored in the rear of sedans, rather than trucks which would naturally be suspected, the fish are covered with canvas to escape detection. On the road, occasional stops are made to drain the melted ice.

Black-market dealers in Georgia pay between \$350 and \$400 for a load, with supply and demand causing the price fluctuation. But catching the culprits is not easy. Once, investigators had to pursue an operator for a hundred miles. The wild chase ended when they shot out his tires. It was quite a catch—800 pounds of speckled perch and bream.

FELON FAILURE

A Chicago burglar ran the gamut of hard luck one night not so long ago when he tried to pry open a tailor shop but only succeeded in setting off a burglar alarm. Next, he tried a restaurant in the neighborhood, but he was stopped by a jimmy-proof door. Lured by the swollen receipts of a hit show playing in a local theatre, he got into the boxoffice in the morning's early hours but failed to crack the safe.

Completely frustrated by his abortive efforts, he telephoned the police. "You can ar-

rest me for attempted robbery. Come down and get me," he sobbed.

It was his sole effort that met with success. In mere seconds, a squad car was bearing down in his direction.

TIME OUT

A vagrant suspected of having pickpocketed a watch was trundled into the station house for questioning. Protesting his innocence, he submitted to a search, which proved futile. Then, one of the patrolmen had a bright idea. The wretch was rushed to the office of a nearby doctor, who readily put his X-ray apparatus at the disposal of the police. As expected, there was the watch, ticking away in the rascal's stomach.

When the owner was brought in to make identification, he emitted a sigh of relief. "Yes, that's it, all right. I'd recognize it anywhere. Still running 12 and a half minutes fast," he said.

HOT HEAD

In a Vermont courtroom recently, a near-sighted judge sniffed and leaned towards the witness on the stand. "Are you smoking?" he asked, indignantly.

"Why, no sir," replied the man, surprised.
"I smell smoke coming from your direction.
Something must be wrong."

And indeed there was. A burning splinter had dropped from an overhead gas bracket onto the witness's toupe, setting it afire.

BLOTTER JOTTINGS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: A short applicant for this city's police force, lacking the desired height, ingeniously plastered his hair back over half of a cocoanut shell. Ruse detected; applicant rejected.

RICHMOND, Va.: An actor was awarded a claim of \$175 for medical expenses when, during a love scene, he miscalculated the distance between him and his leading lady, and fractured his nose on her forehead.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil: In the midst of his trial for selling second-grade meat, a butcher was released when the evidence suddenly disappeared. The courtroom cat had eaten the evidence.



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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS







The RI RGANG





WE STALKED HIM DOWN WATER STREET ... AND WHEN WE REACHED TOPLITSKY'S SEDAN ...

INSIDE, MISTER! WHAT WE'RE RUNNING PLAY5? DOWN TO HEAD-WHO QUARTERS FOR SOME QUESTION ING ABOUT A

OF THE RAILROAD'S MARITIME CHICAGO JOB. DIVISION ... WE DON'T WANT

BETTER DO

I'M HERB

RAWSON,



THERE WAS A CHICAGO JOB THIS DECKHAND MIGHT REMOTELY HAVE AS HE SAYS! BEEN INVOLVED IN. BUT IN A WAY, IF YOU CAN FORGIVE A PUN, I WAS "RAILROADING" HIM OUT OF THE WAY! I WANTED HIS JOB SO I COULD INVES TROUBLE! ABOARD HIS TUG





WHERE

YOU

GANG BUSTERS

DON'T WORRY

ABOUT 'EM! FACT



THUS, NEXT MORNING, UNSHAVED, UNKEMPT-- AND UNKNOWN-- I BOARDED THE TUGBOAT LILY MAE AND CONFRONTED ITS CAPTAIN...

YEAH ... I WAS HANGIN'
AROUND THE ANCHOR CAFE
AND HEARD YOU NEED WITH YOU! MATE, MATE.!!
A DECKHAND! I GOT TO STOW HIS RIG! WE DEBARK
THE EXPERIENCE, SO



IT WAS AS EASY AS THAT. WE SAILED UPRIVER TO A PICKUP POINT AT HAMMOND, ON THE NEW YORK SIDE OF THE HUDSON, AND HEADED FOR HOBOKEN, ON THE JERSEY SIDE...

WE PICKED UP SIX BOXCARS OF FREIGHT AT HAMMOND! GUESS I'LL JUST WANDER BACK





WHY ... ER ... I THOUGHT I'D LOOK

AFT -- SEE IF THE CARS WERE

AT 9 O'CLOCK, THE LILY MAE PULLED INTO PORT AND A LOCOMOTIVE CHUFFED OUT OF A SPUR TO CLAIM THE CARGO CARS...



I WATCHED THE CREW DEPART, HAVING DONNED THEIR STREET CLOTHES, AS I LOITERED NEAR THE CAPTAIN AND A YARD INSPECTOR...

THANKS...NOW

LET ME HAVE
ONE... UM, CAR 43363
IN GOOD ORDER-SEAL NOT BROKEN -NO FORCED ENTRY-EVERYTHING'S
OKAY, CAP'N!
THANKS...NOW
LET ME HAVE
YOUR RECEIPT,
AND I'LL SHOVE
OFF: I'VE GOT
ANOTHER RUN
TOMORROW
MORNING!



IT HAD BEEN A WILD GOOSE CRUISE ALL RIGHT! I TAXIED TO MIDTOWN MANHATTAN TO INFORM MR. BRATTON, MY DIVISION CHIEF. I'D HARDLY

MR. BRATTON, SIR...
ANOTHER JOB! THAT
CARGO WAS WORTH
AN URGENT TELETYPE! TWO OF
THOSE SIX CARS
WERE OPENED AT
THE TRUCK DEPOT
AND FOUND TO HAVE



WHO IS THERE MUST BE LOOTING A WEAK LINK THE CARS ... IN THE CHAIN AND HOW? SOMEWHERE -OBVIOUS LY, AND I'M GOING TO THE ANSWER KEEP AT IT ISN'T ABOARD UNTIL IT

THE GIVES!
LILY MAE, TROUBLE IS,
HERB ... WHERE DO I
START NEXT?









DUFFLE BAGS, VALISES --! OF COURSE!

WHILE COMING DOWNRIVER, THEN STOW IT IN THEIR GEAR!

BUT HOW DO THEY KNOW LOOK LIVELY THERE WHICH CARS TO BREAK RAWSON! THE INTO? SOMEONE MUST FURNACE NEEDS HAVE ACCESS TO THE A AN EXTRA HAND! WAYBILLS, WHICH ITEMIZE THE CONTENTS OF EACH,



BY 2 O'CLOCK, WE WERE BACK AT HAMMOND. IN THE SULTRY SUMMER AFTERNOON, THE WATER LOOKED INVITING ...

ER ... I CHANGED MY MIND. AFTER STOKING THAT CAPTAIN! RECKON I'LL GO ASHORE ... JUST -REMEMBERED I'M -- ER--FURNACE, A DIP WILL

FRESH OUT OF CIGARETTES!



UNOBSERVED, I TAILED THE MATE TO THE DISPATCH-ERS OFFICE -- AND IT WAS THERE THAT THE PLOT LITERALLY FLEW OUT THE WINDOW!

CAR 32646, WRIST WATCHES AND WOMEN'S CUSTOM JEWELRY ... WE AIN'T HAD MUCH DON'T GET HUNGRY .. OF THAT LATELY! LEMME SEE, T THE END OF CAR 993 --- WALLETS, PIPES, CIGARETTE LIGHTERS! WHEN THE MONTH, AS USUAL! DO I GET PAID OFF ?



ITS VERY SIMPLICITY MAPE IT A CLEVER GIMMICK --RIFLING THE CARS LOAPED ONLY WITH PORTABLE MERCHANDISE, THEN RELOCKING AND RESTORING THE CAREFULLY-CUT SEALS!



BUT I WANTED TO CATCH THE CREW RED-HANDED -- SO SOON AFTER, AS WE PICKED UP STEAM.

SO YOU'VE CAUGHT ONTO CAP'N, YOU DON'T HAVE TO KID ME NO OUR SCHEME, EH? WELL MORE! I KNOW THE RAWSON, YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO UNCOYERED RACKET YOU'RE RUNNIN' ON THIS A SECRET ... 50 DID I!













AYE-AYE!

SURPRISED, EH? NO MORE THAN I







IN A MOMENT, THE BURLY MATE ENTERED, GRINNING GLEE-

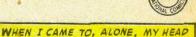








HERE UNTIL IT GETS DARK --- HE CAN'T GOING IN ONLY ONE DIRECTION ---



GOT TO ... THINK ... CLEARLY ... DON'T KNOW WHEN ... THEY'RE GOING TO ... KILL ME. MUST DO ... SOMETHING ...

WAS SPINNING LIKE A HELM IN A GALE





















CAN'T AFFORD TO FIGHT IT OUT AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS! BUT I'VE GOT AN S IDEA ... IT'S ONE CHANCE IN A THOUSAND, BUT IT'S MY ONLY HOPE---!











THEN, WIELDING A GLEAMING AUTO-MATIC WHICH I BORROWED FROM THE CAPTAIN...

GO ON --- CLIMB ABOARD, ALLOF YOU!
I'LL LOCK YOU IN FOR SAFEKEEPING!
YOU HAVEN'T FAR TO GO ... JUST TO
HOBOKEN, WHERE I'LL TURN YOU TO
OVER TO THE



AND THIS PROBABLY MARKS THE FIRST TIME THAT A CARGO OF CROOKS WAS DELIVERED F.O. B.!



TALKS ABOUT... TALKS ABOUT...





HEY, FELLERS, PIPE POWN -- HERE COMES PETE, HE PROBABLY WON'T BE GETTING ANYTHING THIS YEAR. I HEARD MY DAD SAY HIS MOTHER HAD BEEN SICK SO LONG HIS DAD'S ALMOST BROKE!



HI, FELLERS, GUESS
WHAT? MY MOTHER'S
COMING HOME FROM
THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW,
BOY, WHAT A CHRISTMAS
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE!



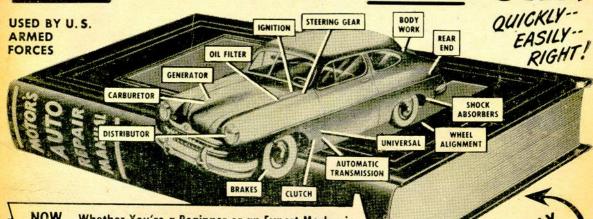
SAY, THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS I LIKE BEST ABOUT HANUKKAH, TOO. EVERYBODY IN OUR FAMILY GETS TOGETHER--AND DO WE HAVE A GOOD TIME! SAME THING WITH US, COME TO THINK OF IT. I LOVE IT AFTER WE EAT AND MY GRANDFATHER TELLS STORIES ABOUT WHEN



NOW YOU'RE BOTH TALKING! THE NICE THING ABOUT THESE HOLIDAYS WE'VE BEEN CELEBRATING FOR SO MANY CENTURIES IS THAT WONDERFUL FEELING PEOPLE ENJOY WHEN FAMILIES GET TOGETHER. PRESENTS ARE JUST ONE WAY OF SHOWING THESE FEELINGS. WHAT THEY COST OR HOW BIG THEY ARE SHOULDN'T REALLY MATTER!

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