

Rattlers Fast 6 Months
Santa Cruz, Cal. —(UP)—Mike Murgrove, foreman of the Hoover ranch near here, is authority for the statement that rattlesnakes are the cheapest pets anyone can main-

tain. He has kept five in captivity for the past six months and they haven't eaten a single morsel of food placed in their glass cage.

Trade in a Good Town—Decatur.

Public Sale

Have sold my farm and will sell at Public Auction, 1½ mile South of Fort Wayne on Hanna street extended near Hill Crest School, on

TUESDAY, October 27, 1936

at 10:00 A. M.

HORSES—Pair of Sorrell Mares, smooth mouth, weight 3000 lbs. CATTLE—Large Holstein Cow, fresh by sale day, a 7 gal. cow; 2 outstanding Large Guernsey Cows, fresh, 5 gal. cows, 4 & 5 yrs. old.

POULTRY—40 Chickens. FEED—250 shocks of good Corn in shock; 3 ton Hay; 50 bu. Oats. IMPLEMENTS—McDeering Hay Loader, new; McCormick Binder; good; Mower; Tedder; Dump Rake; Double Disc; McDeering 10 Disc Fertilizer Grain Drill, new; Manure Spreader; Spring and Spike Tooth Harrows; Oliver Breaking Plows, 1 Rider, 1 Walker; Drop Tongue Wagon and Box; New Clipper Fan Mill; Oliver Riding Cultivator; Brown Walking Cultivator; 2 Hay Ladders; Dump Boards; Low Wheel Wagon; J. Deere Corn Planter, good; Double set Work Harness; Stretchers; Drag Road Grader; Good Spring Wagon; Butchering Tools; Carpenter Tools; Platform Scales; Copper Kettle; Milk Cans; Oil Stove. Piano and Bench. 2 Rugs 11x12. Household Goods and small articles too numerous to mention.

TERMS—Cash unless arrangements made with owner before day of sale.

CHAS. F. MOELLERING, Owner

Roy Johnson, Auctioneer.

Lunch will be served.

"THE BIG FOUR" by Agatha Christie

CHAPTER XXXII

"Leave England at once. You can do no good here—I tell you that frankly. You will never accomplish anything," the countess went on.

"In that case," I said stiffly, "it seems rather extraordinary that you are all so anxious to get me out of the country."

The countess shrugged her shoulders—magnificent shoulders, and a magnificent gesture.

"For my part, I think that, too, stupid. I would leave you here to play about happily. But the chiefs, you see, are afraid that some word of yours may give great help to those more intelligent than yourself. Hence—you are to be banished."

The countess appeared to have a flattering idea of my abilities. I concealed my annoyance. Doubtless this attitude of hers was assumed expressly to annoy me and give me the idea that I was unimportant.

"It would, of course, be quite easy to—remove you," she continued, "but I am quite sentimental sometimes. I pleaded for you. You have a nice little wife somewhere, have you not? And it would please the poor little man who is dead to know that you were not to be killed. I always liked him, you know. He was clever—but clever! Had it not been a case of four against one I honestly believe he might have been too much for us. I confess it frankly—he was my master! I sent a wreath to the funeral as a token of my admiration—an enormous one of crimson roses. Crimson roses express my temperament."

I listened in silence and a growing distaste.

"You have the look of a mule when it puts its ears back and kicks. Well, I have delivered my warning. Remember this, the third warning will come by the hand of the Destroyer."

She made a sign, and the car whirled away rapidly. I noted the number mechanically, but without the hope that it would lead to anything. The Big Four were not apt to be careless in details.

I went home a little sobered. One fact had emerged from the countess's flood of volubility. I was in real danger of my life. Though I had no intention of abandoning the struggle, I saw that it behooved me to walk warily and adopt every possible precaution.

Whilst I was reviewing all these facts and seeking for the best line of action, the telephone bell rang. I crossed the room and picked up the receiver.

"Yes. Hallo. Who's speaking?"

"This is St. Gile's Hospital. We have a Chinaman here, knifed in the street and brought in. He can't last long. We rang you up because we found in his pocket a piece of paper with your name and address on it."

I was very much astonished. Nevertheless, after a moment's reflection I said that I would come down at once. St. Gile's Hospital was, I knew, down by the docks, and it occurred to me that the Chinaman might have just come off some ship.

It was on my way down there that a sudden suspicion shot into my mind. Was the whole thing a trap?

Wherever a Chinaman was, there might be the hand of Li Chang Yen.

I remembered the adventure of the Baited Trap. Was the whole thing a ruse on the part of my enemies?

A little reflection convinced me that at any rate a visit to the hospital would do no harm. It was probable that the thing was not so much a plot as what is vulgarly known as a "plant." The dying Chinaman

would make some revelation to me upon which I should act, and which would have the result of leading me into the hands of the Big Four. The thing to do was to preserve an open mind, and whilst feigning credulity be secretly on my guard.

The doctor pushed me aside. It was all over. The man was dead.

I went out into the air again thoroughly bewildered.

"Handel's Largo," and a "carrozza." If I remembered rightly, a "carrozza" was a carriage. What possible meaning could lie behind those simple words. The man was a Chinaman, not an Italian, why should he speak in Italian? Surely, if he were indeed Ingles's servant, he must know English? The whole thing was profoundly mystifying. I puzzled over it all the way home. Oh, if only Poirot had been there to solve the problem with his lightning ingenuity!

I let myself in with my latch-key and went slowly up to my room. A letter was lying on the table, and I tore it open carelessly enough. But in a minute I stood rooted to the ground whilst I read.

It was a communication from a group of solicitors.

"Dear Sir (it ran),—As instructed by our late client, M. Hercule Poirot, we forward you the enclosed letter. This letter was placed in our hands a week before his death, with instructions that in the event of his demise, it should be sent to you at a certain date after his death.

"Yours faithfully, etc."

I turned the enclosed missive over and over. It was undoubtedly from Poirot. I knew that familiar writing only too well. With a heavy heart, yet a certain eagerness, I should hear that message.

"Is he conscious?" I asked. "Can he speak?" Mr. Ingles was an old friend of mine, and I think it possible that this poor fellow has brought me a message from him. Mr. Ingles is believed to have gone overboard about ten days ago."

"He's just conscious, but I doubt if he has the force to speak. He lost a terrible lot of blood, you know. I can administer a stimulant, of course, but we've already done all that is possible in that direction."

Nevertheless, he administered a hypodermic injection, and I stayed by the bed, hoping against hope for a word—a sign—that might be of the utmost value to me in my work. But the minutes sped on and no sign came.

And suddenly a baleful idea shot across my mind: Was I not already falling into the trap? Suppose that this Chinaman had merely assumed the part of Ingles's servant, that he was in reality an agent of the Big Four? Had I not once read that certain Chinese priests were capable of simulating death? Or, to go further still, Li Chang Yen might command a little band of fanatics who would welcome death itself if it came at the command of their master. I must be on my guard.

"A bas the Big Four! I salute you, my friend, from beyond the grave."

"Ever thine, "Hercule Poirot."

I read and re-read this astonishing communication. One thing was evident. This amazing man had so provided for every eventuality that even his own death did not upset the sequence of his plans! Mine was to be the active part—his the directing genius. Doubtless I should find full instructions awaiting me beyond the seas. In the meantime my enemies, convinced that I was obeying their warning, would cease to trouble their heads about me. I could return, unsuspected, and work havoc in their midst.

There was now nothing to hinder my immediate departure. I sent off cables, booked my passage, and one week later found myself embarking in the *Ansonia* en route for Buenos Ayres.

Just as the boat left the quay, a steward brought me a note. It had been given him, so he explained, by a big gentleman in a fur coat who had left the boat last thing before the gangway planks were lifted.

I opened it. It was terse and to the point.

"You are wise," it ran. "It was signed with a big figure 4.

I could afford to smile to myself!

(To Be Continued)

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Test Your Knowledge
Can you answer seven of these ten questions? Turn to page Four for the answers.

1. What great war occurred in 1870-71?

2. What does pomiform mean?

3. Where is the state of Gwadar?

4. In the Roman Catholic church, what is a monstrance?

5. Who was Henry Blake Fuller?

6. On what island is the town of Oyster Bay, New York?

7. In physics, what is repulsion?

8. Name the product obtained by strongly heating coal out of contact with the air until the volatile constituents are driven off.

9. What is the common name for the medical term acute coryza?

10. Name the capital of Kentucky.

1. Near which Tennessee city was the battle of Chickamauga fought?

2. When and by whom was the first successful power loom invented?

3. Where was Benjamin Franklin born?

4. What is fullers' earth?

5. Name the island of which Reik-

Some Hollywood Stars Prove Fiery Meteors



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS BUSINESS CARDS AND NOTICES

RATES

One Time—Minimum charge of 25¢ for 20 words or less. Over 20 words, 1/4¢ per word.
Two Times—Minimum charge of 40¢ for 20 words or less. Over 20 words 2¢ per word for the two times.
Three Times—Minimum charge of 50¢ for 20 words or less. Over 20 words 2 1/2¢ per word for the three times.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Nursery stock—Now is the time to replace your evergreens. Also fruit and shade trees. Riverside Nursery, 4 miles west of Berne, road 118. 237118x

FOR SALE—100 yearling white leghorn hens and 50 pullets, 60¢. Victor Byerly, half-mile east of Kirkland high school. 251t3x

FOR SALE—Sheep, 18 head. Extra nice breeding ewes. Harry S. Crownover, 1 1/2 miles west of Pleasant Mills. Phone 9923. 252t3x

FOR SALE—Eating apples, \$1. \$1.25, basket. Bring your own container. Decatur Upholster Shop, 222 S. Second st., Phone 429. 248t3x

FOR SALE—Exceptionally good 40 acres. Good buildings. Electricity available. Corn, oats, hay, insurance included. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 1tx

FOR SALE—See J. H. Engle for farm bargains. Also city properties. Berne, Indiana. 1tx

FOR SALE—One Heatrola type stove, good heater. Inquire at 12th and Nuttman. 1alx

FOR SALE—Red coat, leggings and hat. Size 3. Phone 843. 252g3t

BUY THAT FARM NOW and begin planning your crops for next year! Write for FREE illustrated catalog today showing 175 choice farms in Indiana and Ohio. All sizes. Convenient terms. First Joint Stock Land Bank, Dept. 1121 Fort Wayne, Ind. 1tx

MISCELLANEOUS

NOTICE—New and used Singer sewing machines sold and repaired for all makes. Also a complete line of new fall hats. Vitz Shop, phone 425. 249t5x

MISCELLANEOUS—Furniture repaired, upholstered or refinished at the Decatur Upholstering Shop, 222 South Second street, Phone 420. Also used furniture. 24212

WANTED

FEMALE HELP WANTED—Girl between 20 and 30 for housework in family of three. Salary \$6.00 per week, for girl who can qualify. This is a good position for girl who desires a good home. Write or call Mrs. Harry Segal, 1515 Kensington Blvd., Ft. Wayne, Ind. 251t3

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Four room apartment in modern home. Phone 756 or call at 325 North Fifth st. 252g3t

FOR RENT—Modern suburban 8 rooms and 10 acres. A. D. Suttles. 253 t3

Imbibers Clean Lots

Astoria, Ore. —(UP)—Alcohol gets the credit for the tidier condition of this city's vacant lots. From the ranks of those arrested for intoxication Chief of Police John Aeton keeps crews busy on his new project.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given on Monday, November 2, 1936 will be the last day to pay your Fall installment of taxes. The county treasurer's office will be open 8 A. M. to 1 P. M. during the tax paying season. All taxes not paid by that time will become delinquent and a 3% penalty will be added. Also interest at the rate of 8% will be charged from the date of delinquency until paid. Those who have bought or sold property and wish to have a division of taxes are asked to come in at once.

Call on the Auditor for errors and any reductions. The Treasurer can make no exceptions.

The Treasurer will not be responsible for the penalty of delinquent taxes resulting from the omission of tax-payers to state definitely on what property they desire to pay, in whose name it may be found, in what township or corporation it is situated.

Persons owing delinquent taxes should pay them at once, the law is such that there is no option left for the Treasurer but enforce the collection of delinquent taxes.

The annual sale of delinquent lands and lots will take place on the second Monday in February 1937 at 10:00 A. M.

Court orders will not be paid to anyone owing delinquent taxes. All persons are warned against them.

No receipts or checks will be held after expiration of time as the new delinquent law requires the Treasurer to make daily deposit.

Persons owing taxes in more than one township mention the fact to the Treasurer, also see that your receipts call for all your real estate and personal property.

In making inquiries of the Treasurer regarding taxes to insure reply do not fail to include return postage.

JEFF F. LIECHTY

Treasurer Adams County, Indiana Oct. 5 to Nov. 2

THIMBLE THEATER



NOW SHOWING—"YES, SIR, THAT'S MY BABY!"



MARKET REPORT

DAILY REPORT OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN MARK