

MURDER? YES. BUT WHO KILLED HER?

Only Eight People Could Have Killed the Beautiful Miss Palfreeman, but Francis Everton Solves the Puzzle in 'Dale House Murder.'

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

Eight people were in the house when Miss Stella Palfreeman was murdered by a strange poison being administered as medicine.

Stella did not want to pass out of life's picture, but some one wanted her to.

But who? That's the problem undertaken by Francis Everton in "The Dalehouse Murder," a new mystery story published by the Bobbs-Merrill Company.

Five of the possible guilty ones were assembled as a week end tennis party in an English home. The other three who might have been guilty was a cook, often very tipsy, a serving maid and a nurse.

It is in this story that you meet The Tundish, a strange doctor who took a queer delight in collecting rare poisons. It was a few drops of this that caused the sudden death of Stella who loved both life and tennis. This man had brains and great ability.

The trick, of course, is to so confuse the reader that it will be impossible to solve the affair until the last ten pages.

The story is told by one F. H. Jeffcock, who becomes closely involved with Stella's death. I even suspicioned Jeffcock, and that is a compliment to the author.

Here is an intelligent attempt to "smoke screen" all events, and the reader becomes intensely excited over poor beautiful Stella.

Will admit that at times things looked mighty dark for The Tundish and his death dealing cabinet of poison. And yet it is the ability of the author to play the doctor at times in the innocent light of attempting to solve the problem as well as always being present when things look most dark that gives "The Dalehouse Murder" its baffling structure.

Everton does not make one at all

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Best Sellers

The following is a list of six best sellers in fiction and non-fiction in Bretano's New York stores:

Fiction
"Men Without Women," E. Hemingway; "South Sea Tales," K. W. Deeping, Knopf, "Jalana," M. de la Roche, Little, Brown; "Death Comes for the Archbishop," W. G. Knopf; "The President's Daughter," Nan Britton, Elizabeth and Gould; "Madame Bovary," G. B. Russel, Bretano's.

Non-Fiction
"Mother India," K. Mayo, Harcourt, Brace; "The President's Daughter," Nan Britton, Elizabeth and Gould; "The Last Days of Pompeii," G. B. Russel, Bretano's.

"Companions in Marriage," Linda S. Evans, Boni and Liveright; "Boss Tweed," D. T. Lynch, Boni and Liveright; "Johnny Burgoyne," F. J. Huddleston, Bobbs, Merrill.

Singers desiring to become members of the Indianapolis Civic Opera Association will meet at the Athenaeum at 7 o'clock Thursday night for voice trials. The first opera to be presented will be "The Prince of Pilsen" some time near the first of next year.

Indianapolis theaters today offer: "The Cradle Song" at English's; "Adam and Eva" at the Colonial; "The Tundish," a strange doctor who took a queer delight in collecting rare poisons. It was a few drops of this that caused the sudden death of Stella who loved both life and tennis. This man had brains and great ability.

There is plenty of clever confusion here for the average reader. Not a weighty story, but a mystery that stacks up as good entertainment. There is fun in finding out who poisoned Stella.

It wins its purpose by both entertaining and keeping one guessing.

The Federation of Public School Teachers tonight at Caleb Mills Hall will present Mario Chamlee, Metropolitan tenor, and Miss Ruth Miller, soprano, in recital. Opening concert of the teachers' season.

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