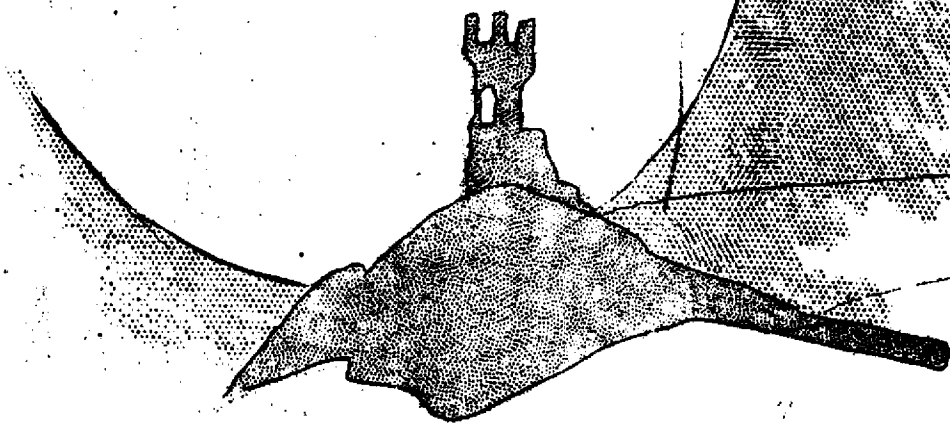


# Mystery Trader



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On both sides of the Atlantic inflation has reared its ugly head; it hits particularly hard on those who deal in professional and amateur publishing! The worst has been the postal rise; and I regret that it has pushed my prices up once again.

Many thanks to those of you who wrote and showed a helpful interest in TMT; I hope you like the direction in which it is moving. I hope too, you will keep up the good work by sending in articles. Particular thanks go to Mary Groff who has sent me a handsome pile of drawings for front covers. I have used the last by Arthur Thomson this time, after that it will be Mary all the way!

I got a statement from my bank the other day that may interest you. I had received a cheque for \$2 and the bank informed me that the exchange rate was 2.435, that the sterling equivalent was 82p that the agents charge was 10p that the bank's charge was 25p and so I was left with 47p in my account! This points up the fact that on small sums an international money order is cheaper. Don't forget that when you send a cheque..you pay these charges too!

I have some news of the Crime Writers International Congress 1975. This is to be held at the Piccadilly Hotel, London from Sunday 5th October to Wednesday 8th October. It is primarily a gathering of the professional writers, but there is one session that will be open to the public. This is on Wednesday 8th October. From 10.30-11.45am there will be a panel of famous crime writers who will speak on their methods of working. From 12.00-1pm there will be a talk on "International Crime in Real Life" by John A. Mack, senior research fellow in Criminology at the University of Glasgow. The price for this attendance has not yet been decided, but I hope to have it in the next issue.

Another news note in connection with this Congress is that there will be an LP record of crime writers reading a mini-chapter of a long short story, each to write his or her section. This will have 8 top writers of international repute taking part. It will be published by EMI records.

As far as I know, this is the first time that the crime writers have opened to the public any of their proceedings. So if you go—please be nice to them all....and maybe they will let us go to more next time!

Ethel Lindsay

# A TOUCH OF BOND

by John Boyles

## William Haggard's THE OLD MASTERS

It had to happen, one supposes, but was it inevitable? Given the earlier books of William Haggard one would have thought not. Is it that he doesn't wish to be seen as a fuddy-duddy of the Old School? He is just that, of course, and one can't help thinking that he delights in being what he is, but there is always the ever-present urge in all of us to keep up with the times. What is so surprising is that it should be apparent in so urbane an old Tory as William Haggard.

He stems from Buchan and his hero, Colonel Russell would not be out of place in the company of Richard Hannay or Sir Edward Leithen. There is a degree of subtlety in Haggard that one would look in vain for in Buchan, but that may only be evidence of reader's greater sophistication these days. Look at the demands imposed by Len Deighton's plots! Haggard's subtlety is, admittedly, of a different order, perhaps inculcated by his training in the corridors of power, where people and countries are not mentioned by name but are, perfectly understood by speaker and listener when delicate negotiations are being undertaken and, hence, by the reader too. There is a neat example of the kind of thing I mean on page 60 of THE OLD MASTERS. Russell and the heroine, Gael Milo, are discussing Richard Bentinck, an American. Gael says:

"Have you heard of Richard Bentinck?"

"Never"

"He's a popular and respected consul in the seaside town where you've chosen to lodge. Also he's something very different."

"He's one of those?"

In other words Russell knows that Bentinck is an American agent. And no reader is going to misunderstand when Kamich, one of the villains of the piece, is reflecting on his future moves in the following ~~question~~:

In that lay his problem: he was also a patriot. There was a Power which might back him but not in failure. If he failed it would simply come in and take. Twice before it had almost invaded but hadn't. Kamich didn't want that, he had seen what happened. (page 23)

There is no need for Haggard to name the Power.

Haggard's subtlety is apparent, too, in his characterisation of Charles Russell. He seems to be a much more complex creation than Hannay or Leithen, but this is merely the author imparting to the character his own subtlety.

Russell is, in essence, Hannay and Leithen brought up to date, while yet retaining all their predictable views on the world. For Russell, like them, leans towards the old aristocratic virtues. He is a gentleman and he knows it, and, furthermore, he is proud of it. He does not expect others to behave like gentlemen, but he is always pleased and approving when it happens, even if it is someone from the other side. Invariably in the Haggard books Russell must do some dealing with an opposite number and this is either a person who has come to recognise that the British way is the correct way and practises it or one who has been trained by the British. In this book the General falls into the latter category. Here he is, on page 173, talking courteously with Gael

## A TOUCH OF BOND 2

Gael says:

"So you know I went down to see that prisoner?"

"Accompanied by a Colonel Russell and an ex-sergeant from the Regiment of Women. The Colonel I know by reputation and the ex-sergeant I have had carefully checked. Her record was a very tough one.

"But you know what happened inside that cell?"

He shook his head. "But I might make a guess."

"There is no need to guess. He gave me a name."

"The name of the man who really killed your husband?" He corrected himself. "I mean your late husband."

"I have only one husband. I very much loved him."

As answer he put on his cap and rose. He gave her a tremendous salute.

A British drill sergeant would have passed it approvingly and indeed he had learned it from just that source."

Can the author add more, by way of approval? But let me hasten to add that this business of being a gentleman, of subscribing to the old aristocratic virtues, has nothing to do with birth. A ranker can also be a gentleman and there are many subordinates of Russell in the Haggard books who all display the gentlemanly qualities. When Russell opens his door at the beginning of Chapter Two in response to "the discreetest of taps" it is to find a man standing outside who takes "his hat off as though it had been a drill."

Being the person he is, the embodiment of the old aristocratic virtues, Russell is naturally displeased at the more liberal attitudes prevalent today. It is interesting to note his relations with his masters at Whitehall. Until 1964 all went reasonably well, with a comfortable Conservative majority at Westminster, but the return of the Labour Government disturbs the calm. Fortunately for Russell he has to deal with a Labour minister who seems so out of step with his party that he despises his colleagues. He has clearly learned a great deal from the example of Russell, we are to presume, as indeed have those Soviet opposite numbers whom Russell is always dealing with. Perhaps Haggard, who is here deliberately manipulating his plots, is indulging in a little wishful thinking. These dreadful Socialsits, at home and abroad, may one day become as civilised as Charles Russell!

But one wonders, when one puts down THE OLD MASTERS, whether ~~Russell~~ not Russell who is undergoing change, I have noted the tradition from which it seems to me that the Haggard books stem, the Buchan tradition. There was, of course, another tradition which flourished in Buchan's day, just as Right wing, but less romantic, the Bulldog Drummond tradition. It was this tradition that paved the way for James Bond. One can be sure that Russell would disapprove of both Drummond and Bond, despite their allegiance to Russell's own cause. For they would do things which he could not bring himself to do. At least that is what we all thought until now. THE OLD MASTERS shows us a changed Russell, an updated Russell with the sort of sexual feelings that the Russell of old, surely, would have kept severely in check. His attempt to seduce Magda is worth quoting:

"What happens next?" he asked again

"Tomorrow," she said

"Why not tonight?" He waved at the bedroom door, still open.

"I virgin girl," the lady said.

"A misfortune which I could happily remedy."

"Tomorrow," she said, "will come a man."

"It's not the same thing."

"I do not understand"

"A pity-forget it." (page 46)

## A TOUCH OF BOND 3

For Russell it is sufficient to wave at the bedroom door, Bond would employ a more persuasive approach and would not take a refusal too seriously. Russell prefers to bide his time, knowing that his own irresistible charm will get Magda into bed eventually. But at what cost! Besides this new interest in sex one also notes a new slackness, coarseness even, of language. On p47 he says "Don't hurt your pretty."

"I do not understand"

"Your bottom, your buttocks, your nates, your arse,"

"Ass?" the girl asked.

"Not ass, it's arse. Ass is the American preference. I've often wondered how it occurred."

"Please?"

"Let it pass."

It's not quite what Bond might say, but there is surely a touch of Bond in it. One can't help feeling a twinge of regret.

John Boyles.

\*\*\*\*\*

### TWIST ON AN OLD THEME presented by D.John Morris. Solution!

All that you will require are: a supply of putty, a knife, a room on the ground floor, a cast of the victim's fingerprint in putty, and a warped sense of humour. Having locked the door, first open the window and leaning out, use the knife to chip away putty around a pane of glass until you can remove it. Next, replace the pane using fresh putty, taking care to place the victim's finger-print in same. You should use gloves to handle the putty which you use to secure the pane, and these gloves should be thrown as far away from the pane as possible. Just before committing suicide, spread a smear from a separate supply of putty over your fingertips. EXPERT TIP: commit suicide so that you fall against the door, for this gives a better effect. TAKE CARE NOT TO LEAVE YOUR OWN FINGER-PRINTS ON THE WEAPON. When your body is discovered and your case investigated the police will see the putty which you spread on your hands and will conclude that you committed suicide. However, they will then examine forensically the putty on your hands and will find that it is devoid of flecks of glass—from which they will conclude that it was not you who handled the windowpane with the fresh putty around it, and hence that your 'murderer' in fact spread putty over your hands after killing you in order that it would seem as though you killed yourself and tried to make it appear to be a murder (which will be correct of course, although the police will never realise this). The discovery of the telltale fingerprint in the fresh putty outside will convince the police that your enemy killed you, climbed through the window after spreading putty over your hands, removed a pane and reached through to secure the window from the inside, then replaced the pane using fresh putty.

D.John Morris.

### BOOKS FOR FURTHER READING:

"The Compleat Murderer" by D.Quincey Thomas (Academic Tombs 1972)

"Diversions For the Diseased Mind" by Cy O'Nyde (Academic Tombs, 1972)

"The Fine Art Supplement"...bi-monthly from Bill R.Donner Room 601. Broadmoor.

# LETTERS

Jacintha Buddicom

Sun Dance, Kings Parade

Bognor Regis

PO21 2RA

"At least 10 years ago, possible longer, in one of Ellery Queen Annual series, there was an EXTREMELY good story. It was about a peaceful man in a car who was continually badgered by a murderous gang of young hooligans in a beat-up hot-rod, till he finally manouevred them over the edge of the Canyon - he was a racing motorist with his patience at last exhausted. If anyone among your aficionados could identify it for me - title, author and Queen collection - I should appreciate it very much. Will ELIZABETH LININGTON be attending the Crime Writers International Congress next Congress next October, among the Americans? I wrote to Hector Gollancz to ask for her address so that I could send her a copy of my CAT POEMS, but they did not reply. She would probably like my CAT POEMS - as Luiz Mendoza is so crazy about cats, and one of the best books was DEATH OF A BUSYBODY, with the beautiful smoke Persian, Silver Boy, she must love cats too.++++ I'll try to get some up-to-date news about the Congress before I finish up this issue++++

Ken Cowley

Deerhurst Farm

Youngwood Lane

Nailsea, Bristol

BS19 2NR

"I can shed some light on the query raised by Robert Aucott about J.M. Barrie's play SHALL WE JOIN THE LADIES? This is the first act of an unfinished play originally produced at the opening of the Royal Dramatic Academy's Theatre, with one of the most distinguished cats ever assembled on one stage (Fay Compton, Sybil Thorndike, Marie Lohr, Irene Vanbrugh, Sir Gerald du Maurier, et al). The play has a classic "thirties" situation - thirteen at dinner at a traditional pre-war country house party, and one of them murdered the host's younger brother two years before. It is doubtful if Barrie himself knew the identity of the murderer - the play, or rather the first act, was written as an exercise, as an opening night gimmick, an excuse to gather together some of the theatre's leading lights on this special occasion. As well as being included in THE BLACK CAP it was also published in Hutchinsons' A CENTURY OF CREEPY STORIES in the thirties. Now, can anyone help me, please? I am trying to put together a complete set of John Dickson Carr/Carter Dickson and am hung up on the last four titles in each case. The trouble is there has been so much retitling of John's novels between England and America (THE PROBLEM OF THE GREEN CAPSULE=THE BLACK SPECTACLES; THE PEACOCK FEATHER MURDERS=THE TEN TEACUPS; etc) that I am not sure whether my outstanding titles are different books. They are:- John Dickson Carr DEATH TURNS THE TABLES: THE THREE COFFINS (I have the incredibly rare CASTLE SKULL) Carter Dickson DEPARTMENT OF QUEER COMPLAINTS: PUNCH AND JUDY MURDERS: NINE-AND DEATH MAKES TEN: DROP TO HIS DEATH: FATAL DESERT (with John Rhodes). If anyone can help with information - or actual copies - I would be most grateful - and generous!"

ANON

"I spotted among your letters one from Robert Aucott. Just in case you would wish to react to his plea of "Wouldst explain?" I've written the enclosed. I've enjoyed myself, particularly reading that prize performance cast.... Dian Boucicault, Fay Compton, Cyril Maude, Lady Tree, Nelson Keys, Sir Johnston Forbes Robertson, Sybil Thorndike, Sir Charles Hawtrey, Marie Lohr, Madge Tith- uredge, Leon Quartermaine, Irene Vanbrugh, Lilloh McCarthy, Sir Gerald du Maurier,

## Letters 2

Miss Hilda Trevelyan. Gladys Cooper took Marie Lohr's part at the second showing.

SHALL WE JOIN THE LADIES?

by J.M.Barrie.

The scene of the play is the dining-room in an English country house: the hospitable host has asked twelve guests to stay as he is convinced that one of them is responsible for the murder of his brother and his aim is to find out which one is guilty.

Originally planned as a three-act play, this (the first act only-all that had been completed) was produced in 1921 with an unbelievably all star cast to open a new theatre for the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, later that year it had another special all star representation as part of a matinee for King George's Pension Fund; then it had a long run of 407 performances as a curtain raiser to John Galsworthy's LOYALTIES; always to such applause that no author could attempt to stay the course with Acts 2 and 3.

During this Act 1, of course, suspicion falls on every person in the cast, including the non-speaking butler. Barrie, whose first notes on the ~~play~~ for the play was as far back as 1911, had been unable to satisfy himself with the working out of the eventual dénouement; but he had 'selected' the guilty party and he did tell Queen Mary, though we'll never know if King George 'got it out of her'! He also told me and it will go into the incinerator with me\*\*\*\*\*Although the writer of the above wishes to remain ANON, I know the identity behind the letter and so can swear to its validity. As to why ANON- well everyone is entitled to the privacy they desire..and anyway this is the Mystery Trader....Ethel.

Derek Adley  
22 Scott Crescent  
South Harrow  
Middx

"Sorry not to have written before but I've had a bit of a rush to tie up some loose ends on a book to be published in the Spring on Frank Richards (of Billie Bunter fame). Glad you published the Bookshelf, I hope this will prove useful. The only criticism I have is

the details of the BRE & USA editions are a little confused. Regarding the ~~letter~~ letter from Mrs Dawn Thomson-there is of course a book on Agatha Christie in my list-the first item. Just a few corrections which I think should be published. BLOODY MURDER should be 1972 not 71 and the note inserted is "Mortal Consequences (USA). CRIME AND DETECTION 1st Series was introduced by E.M.Woong not by Julian Symons. DOUBLE O SEVEN JAMES BOND by O.F.Snelling nor D.F. GREAT SHORT STORIES OF DETECTION, MYSTERY AND HORROR note should be inserted introduction by Dorothy L.Sayers. IN SEARCH OF DR THORNDYKE by Norman Donaldson. MASTERS OF MYSTERY by ~~Norman Donaldson~~ Norman Donaldson. MORE STRICTLY PERSONAL SIX MONTHS OF MY LIFE. PRIVATE LIFE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE Allan & Unwin 1961 is revised edition. WHO DONE IT published by RR Bowker. Let's hope there is some response to the article to polish up any omissions".\*\*\*\*\* Yes, there was quite a few letters of response and from Amnon Kabatchnik even another checklist. I have them gathered together and this will be published as a separate item. I must apologise for mistakes-at times I had difficulty with your hand-writing! But the final listing I will have proof-read! Amnon suggests that Sherlockian material should have a listing on its own as there is so much of it. What do readers think of this?\*\*\*\*\*

Joe L.Hensley,  
2315 Blackmore  
Madison, Indiana  
47250, USA

"We're planning to make the British Crime Writers' Mystery Writers of America Conference next October and have, in fact, already sent along the beginning money to reserve place. All's well here. I've a new suspense out from Doubleday called SONG OF SORPUS JURIS, which seems to be selling well. One more thing for Derek (and I thank him very much for the list as he's put me

Letters 3

onto some things I'll want to run down): Charles Fort's THE BOOK CHARLES FORT, Holt, 1941. Great fun for when one runs out of ideasm etc. Hope to see you in the fall." \*\*\*\*Yes, I hope to be able to attend some parts of the Conference. I have not listed all the books you added for Derek's list..as I'll keep them all to go in with the others.\*\*\*\*\*

Mary Groff

279 Topaz Way  
San Francisco  
Calif. 94131.

"I did meet Marvin Lachman a few months ago (the Regional Mystery essays in MYSTERY READERS NEWSLETTER). He told me that he is editing an Encyclopedia of Crime & Detection due to come out in about a year. Do you know anything about Lianne Carlin's activities. I have been told that enquiries are not answered. I hope that it will start up again as it was interesting. Have you read BLOOD IN THEIR INK? Is it worth having, I have heard criticism of it"\*\*\*\*Others have asked me about Mrs Carlin, all I can think of is that there is illness in her family, I cannot think of anything else that would make her stop writing. Lets hope it is over soon. Anyone read BLOOD IN THEIR INK? I haven't.\*\*\*\*\*

Francis M. Nevins

4466 W. Pine Blvd.  
St. Louis, Missouri  
63108.

"Perhaps I can be of some assistance to Derek Smith, whose article was extremely enjoyable. At one time I owned the Detective Book Club edition of Christie's THE WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION and THREE BLIND MICE and I remember that WITNESS in this edition is a short story just as it is in all other editions. The blurb Mr Smith found is quite misleading. As for Charteris' LADY ON A TRAIN, it most assuredly exists, and I am fortunate enough to own two copies and would be glad to swap one of them in return for any of the following (equally scarce) British titles by the one and only Harry Stephen Keeler: THE ACE OF SPADES MURDER (Ward Lock, 1949), THE MURDERED MATHEMATICIAN (Ward Lock, 1949), THE STEELTOWN STRANGER (Ward Lock, 1950), THE BARKING CLOCK (Ward Lock, 1951), or STAND BY--LONDON CALLING (Ward Lock, 1953). Would you pass on this offer to Mr Smith?"\*\*\*\*\*Which I did..but what was the outcome, I dunno\*\*\*\*

Robert Coulson

Route 3  
Hartford City  
Indiana 47348.

"I recently ran across a secondhand store which has a partial set of THE INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE LIBRARY. I bought a copy of THE RADIUM TERRORS by Albert Dorrington. If you have any customers looking for titles in this series...They seem to be mostly reprints from the Munsey magazines. They were published by W.R. Caldwell & Co of New York. Two of the books were collections of short stories about a British detective; CLEEK OF SCOTLAND YARD and CLEEK, THE MASTER DETECTIVE. Original copyrights from 1912 to 1918 by Doubleday, Page & Co. The earlier book (SCOTLAND YARD) is illustrated by photographs of a stage production; second book illustrated only by drawings. The author is T.P. Hanshew. Presumably this is another of the rivals (or imitators) of Sherlock Holmes. Another book CLEEK'S GOVERNMENT CASES is mentioned. Can you or any of your readers tell me (a) anything about Cleek's history-if he made the stage he must have been reasonable popular at the time, and (b) if the books are worth anything...And I haven't forgotten the promise of P.A. Taylor article. (I haven't done anything about it, but I have'nny forgotten it.) I have another excuse now; my mother corresponded with Taylor and since I have to go through the house this spring in any event there is the possibility of turning up the letters."\*\*\*\*In A CATALOGUE OF CRIME (p505) Hanshew is briefly mentioned, and it says also Charlotte May Kingsley. But that's all it says..sometimes that catalogue can be maddening! Particularly when it pans all my favourite writers!

My thanks to all those who wrote..

Ethel.



#### FOUR THRILLERS FROM THE LATE SIXTIES

by Francis M. Nevins, Jr.

Oliver Bleeck, The Brass Go-Between. Morrow, 1969; Hodder, 1970

With this novel Ross Thomas, one of the most talented American mystery writers to debut in the last fifteen years, inaugurated a new byline and a new series character, professional intermediary Philip St. Ives. His assignment in this caper is to exchange \$250,000 in ransom money for an ancient African shield stolen from a supposedly burglarproof Washington D.C. museum. But the shield is also a symbol of authority crucial to the outcome of an African civil war, and two memorable black diplomats combine with corrupt cops and several murders to complicate existence for the cool, cautious St. Ives. Smooth writing, characterization and plotwork, spiced with an abundance of healthy anti-authoritarian sentiment, make this a diverting caper indeed. If only Cary Grant were still available to play St. Ives in a movie version!

E. Richard Johnson, Silver Street. Harper & Row, 1968. British title: The Silver Street Killer. Robert Hale, 1969.

Another major American talent to emerge in the sixties was E. Richard Johnson, a convict serving a life term at Minnesota State Prison, who in this Edgar-winning first novel tells a short and unadorned tale of the mean streets in an unnamed city. The rather skimpy plot deals with a modern Jack the Ripper who is slicing up the city's pimps for no discernible reason, and with street-wise homicide dick Tony Lonto whose hunt for the killer inevitably leads him to the discovery that his own girl is nymphomaniac and a whore. The combination of superficial toughness and cloying subsurface romanticism leads me to suspect that Johnson must have been watching a lot of 1930's French crime movies of the Carné-Prévert variety before writing this amateurish but promising novel.

John D. MacDonald, One Fearful Yellow Eye. Gold Medal, 1966; Robert Hale, 1968.

A bird with a broken wing cries Help and Travis McGee flies to Chicago, determined to aid the widow of a famous surgeon in finding out how and by whom her late husband's estate was bled of more than half a million dollars. After exploring some massive family intrigues and some odd corners of the Windy City and outlying areas, he roots out another of those monstrously sadistic villains that only MacDonald can still make plausible. A labyrinthine but masterfully controlled plot, some achingly real characters (not least of them the dead surgeon who comes amazingly to life through the impressions he made on others) and McGee's inimitable observations on the passing scene add up to one of the finest in this compulsively readable series.

William Arden, Deal in Violence. Dodd Mead, 1969; Robert Hale, 1971

Second only to Ross Macdonald in the field of the modern private eye novel is Dennis Lynds, who writes as William Arden, Michael Collins, and Mark Sadler as well as under his own name. The Arden byline is reserved for the cases of industrial spy Kane Jackson whose first adventure, A Dark Power (1968), will someday, I think, be recognised as a masterpiece of its kind. In his second case Jackson is hired to check out a small metallurgical research company, comes across inklings of a corrupt land deal, and soon finds himself in the center of a web of power politicians, businesspeople with money and sex hangups, narcotics, paranoia and double murder. Arden writes tautly, sketches character and scene deftly, integrates into his plot some frightening reflections on American politics, and all in all, despite a few loose ends and a tendency to allow his hero too many lucky guesses, has produced a fine specimen of the thinking man's thriller.

Francis M. Nevins, Jr.

DRAMA. DEATH:  
DISASTER

by Mary Groff

While you are sitting in your theatre seat, engrossed in some drama, perhaps you are unaware of the real tragedy that was performed there. Several London theatres have had murders or attempted murders committed on the premises and one even had a hidden corpse. Some of the theatres have a regular audience of silent, grey figures.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, is probably the most haunted places of entertainment in the world. Dan Leno (1860-1904) was once seen by the late Stanley Lupino (1893-1942) giving him a considerable shock at the time. Leno, who appeared in pantomimes at Drury Lane as well as working in Music Halls, died of a heart attack in his sleep at the age of 44, caused by a lifetime of overwork. It is not certain if he returned to the theatre on that particular occasion because of his love of the stage (if he had any) or because of the gruelling work that hastened his death.

Another sad ghost of Drury Lane is Charles Macklin(1700-97). Macklin was the man who changed the role of Shylock from one of crude comedy into a tragic and dramatic figure. It is strange that he chooses to haunt this theatre because he was the murderer not the murdered. One day in May,1735,Macklin(a very temperamental Irishman)was in a worse-than-usual-mood. He was appearing in a play called "Trick for Trick" with a small-part actor named Thomas Hallam. Macklin was particularly irritated because a wig that he needed for the performance was missing. When he spotted Hallam wearing it he became enraged and demanded its return immediately. Hallam refused and in the ensuing argument Macklin lunged at him with a cane he was carrying. It pierced Hallam's eye and the next day he died from the wound. Although Macklin was charged with this murder he managed to survive and appeared in many more plays before his death, some of which he wrote himself. As well as acting his own personal version of Macbeth, he also started the fashion of acting this part in Highland dress. He lived for about 62 years after the murder and maybe his occasional reappearance at the site means that he is offering his regrets for what he did so many years ago.

The most important ghost at Drury Lane is the one who appears before a long-run. He is both friendly and helpful and is not above pushing an actor into a more favourable position on the stage. He was seen before "My Fair Lady" and "Oklahoma" both a great success in London but he could have read the New York reviews. He did give his personal approval to several of Ivor Novello's productions including "The Dancing Years" and "Glamorous Night". Strangely, he is not considered to have been an actor but the ghost of an anonymous body that was found bricked up in a wall while repairs to the theatre were taking place. The body was wearing Eighteenth Century riding clothes and had a dagger stuck between his ribs. It is in this costume that he appears; always in daylight as he is a considerate ghost. Actors who are rehearsing watch eagerly for his appearance.

Fanny Kelly (1790-1882) is one actress who never haunts Drury Lane, even though a rejected lover once fired at her from the audience in this theatre. She used to haunt the Royalty in Soho, a theatre that was built by her and proved to be a financial disaster. She had hoped to run this along with a

## DRAMA: DEATH: DISASTER 2

a Drama School and for about 10 years she struggled hopelessly to make her dream come true. She was forced to sell as things went so badly for her. Though she lived for many years after this she never seemed to have the successes of her early years, when Charles Lamb proposed to her and made her the subject of his essay "Barbara S—". After her death she was seen at the theatre several times, maybe to see how her successors were managing. The Royalty was very badly damaged by bombs during the Second World War and is no longer with us. Neither is Fanny as she has never bothered to visit the building that replaced her beloved theatre, at least there have been no reports of her being seen in the vicinity.

The Adelphi had its moment of terror too. One night in the winter of 1897, Richard Prince (an uninteresting actor of no great theatrical consequence) stabbed and killed William Terriss before a performance. They were both appearing in Gillette's "Secret Service" and Prince had become angered by the success and popularity of the pleasant and kindly Terriss. Prince was found guilty but insane and was confined for life. Terriss returns in spirit both to the theatre and to Covent Garden Underground Station where he is seen occasionally by susceptible people. Even though the Adelphi was gutted in the 1930s and rebuilt, Terriss remains faithful to the place. One strange story that is attributed to his understudy was that the man claimed he dreamt of the death the night before it actually happened, but maybe understudies are inclined to have this dream as a matter of course. Gillette, the writer of the fatal play, also wrote and performed in "Sherlock Holmes" which had an enormous success and is still revived periodically.

One cheerful ghost, who died a natural death appears from time to time at the Haymarket. John Baldwin Buckstone (1802-79) started his working life in a solicitor's office. He was soon drawn to the theatre as a talented actor and as a playwright. He loved the Haymarket Theatre where he was manager for many years and he even lived in a house behind it so that he would never be too far away. He loved the applause, the excitement and the laughter of the stage so much that he has never left the building and is sometimes seen by actors, stage hands and others working behind the scenes. No one is afraid of him as he was a gentle and lovable man and his ghost does nothing to upset. He could even make Queen Victoria laugh which must have been quite a feat. One of his problems was his deafness which could cause mishaps on stage. The prompter was supposed to touch his shoulder at his cue because he could not always hear what was happening; occasionally someone would touch him accidentally and he would rush out on the stage at the wrong moment. He was a quick-witted man and usually managed to ad-lib his way out of the problem and as he was so nice and pleasant both the audience and the cast forgave him his mistakes. Although many people mourned his death they really needn't have bothered as he is still at the Haymarket and can sometimes be seen wandering around or sitting in the room he once used as an office. His productions were lengthy affairs often starting around 7 p.m. and going on until well after midnight. Victorian audiences must have had great stamina.

Next time you are in a theatre and feel that you are not alone in your seat you may well be right. Mary Groff

- References: 1. Peter Gammond, Your Own, Your Very Own! (Ian Allan, 1971)  
2. William W. Appleton, Charles Macklin, An Actor's Life (Harvard Univ. Press 1960)  
3. Cyril Maude, Haymarket Theatre (Grant Richards, 1903)  
4. Peter Underwood, Haunted London (Harrap, 1973)  
5. Phyllis Hartnoll, Editor, The Oxford Univ. Companion to the Theatre (Oxford 1951)

PERMANENT WANTS-----PERMANENT WANTS-----PERMANENT WANTS-----PERMANENT WANTS

William Hopkins c/o E.M.Aikins 811 W.15th St.Port Angeles,Wa.98362,USA  
Detective/Mystery Fiction pre-1920 1st editions not necessary, nor is fine condition. Please send firm quotes, all quotes answered the same day as received and all lists of such material. Thank you, and good hunting!

Allen, Grant AN AFRICAN MILLIONAIRE, MISS CAYLEY'S ADVENTURES; quote others, ~~ASHTON~~, Clifford THE ADVENTURES OF ROMNEY PRINGLE, Aubrey Frank KING OF THE DEAD, A STUDIO MYSTERY (His fantasies under Fenton also wanted) Bagot, Richard A ROMAN MYSTERY Barr, Robert REVENGE! TRIUMPHS OF EUGENE VALMONT, quote others, Barrett, Frank PLEASE QUOTE Bayly A, Eric THE MAN WITH PARROTS THE SECRET OF SCOTLAND YARD Beaman, Emerio OZMAR THE MYSTIC Bodkin, M. McDonnell PAUL BECK, quote others Boothby, Guy A BID FOR FORTUNE, DR. NIKOLA DR. NIKOLA'S EXPERIMENT FAREWELL NIKOLA. THE LUST OF HATE, PHAROS THE EGYPTIAN quote others. Braddon, M.E. Please quote. Bramah, Ernest MAX CARRADOS, quote others. Campbell, Sir Gilbert WILD AND WEIRD, quote others. Chesney, Weatherby THE ADVENTURES OF AN ENGINEER THE ADVENTURES OF A SOLICITOR, quote others ~~CARRINGTON~~, J. Storer CARRINGTON'S CASES Corbett, Mrs George ADVENTURES OF A LADY DETECTIVE quote others. (Croskey Julian) MR. M-----Delannoy, Burford A THESPIAN DETECTIVE quote others Donovan, Dick CAUGHT AT LAST! THE MAN HUNTER EUGENE VIDOCQ FROM CLUE TO CAPTURE, LINK BY LINK TALES OF TERROR quote others. Du Boisby, Fortune Please quote. Dunsany Lord TWO BOTTLES OF RELISH Dyllington, Anthony THE UNSEEN THING! Ex-Private X SOMEONE IN THE ROOM

Farjeon, B.L. DEVLIN THE BARBER, quote others Fenn, G. Manville THE MYNNS MYSTERY quote others. Freeman, R. Austin THE RED THUMB JOHN THORNDYKE'S CASES, quote others Froest, F. & Dilnot, G. THE CRIME CLUB THE ROGUE'S SYNDICATE.

Gaboriau, Emile DOSSIER NO 113 THE GILDED CLIQUE, THE MYSTERY OF ORCIVAL quote others, must be early editions pre-1900 Greet, Dora V. MRS GREET'S STORY OF THE GOLDEN OWL Griffith, George (I AM ALSO VERY INTERESTED IN HIS SCIENCE FICTION TITLES) BROTHERS OF THE CAHIN KNAVES OF DIAMONDS, quote others Griffiths, Major Arthur CRIMINALS I HAVE KNOWN quote others Gull C. Ranger A BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL quote others (His fantasy too!)

Hanson, Mark PLEASE QUOTE Hering, Henry A BURGLAR'S CLUB Herman, Henry THE CRIME OF A CHRISTMAS TOY, quote others. Heron, E.H. GHOST STORIES Hill, Headon ZAMBERA THE DETECTIVE CLUES FROM A DETECTIVE'S CAMERA quote others. Hodgson, William Hope CARNAKI CAPTAIN GAULT Horlet, Sydney THE VAMPIRE Hume, Fergus PLEASE QUOTE Hyne, C.J. Cutcliffe THE DERELICT (I AM ALSO INTERESTED IN HIS FANTASYS)

Johnson, G. Lindsay WEIRD ADVENTURES OF PROFESSOR DELAPINE OF THE SORBONNE Kernahan, Coulson THE DUMPLING SCOUNDRELS & CO quote others Le Fanu, J. Sheridan. CHECKMATE quote others Le Queux, William Please quote mysteries and his Fantasy titles Leroux, Gaston BALAOO THE MYSTERY OF THE YELLOW ROOM quote others Lynch, Lawrence AGAINST ODDS NO PROOF MOINA quote others

M'Govan, James BROUGHT TO ~~RAY~~ HUNTED DOWN STRANGE CLUES quote others Mackenzie W.A. THE BLACK BUTTERFLY Mann, Jack THE GLASS TOO MANY QUOTE OTHERS Marryat Florence ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE quote others Marsh, Richard THE BETTLE THE CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL quote others Meade L.T. THE SORCERESS OF THE STRAND please quote others, also any with her co-authors Robert Eustace and Clifford Halifax M.D. Morrison, Arthur ADVENTURES OF MARTIN HEWITT, CHRONICLES OF MARTIN HEWITT, THE DORRINGTON BOX MARTIN HEWITT, INVESTIGATOR quote others Nisbit, Hume COMRADES OF THE BLACK CROSS quote others (Fantasy too!) Orczy, Baroness THE CASE OF MISS ELLIOTT LADY MOLLY OF SCOTLAND YARD UNRAVELED KNOTS THE OLD MAN IN THE CORNER quote others

PERMANENT WANTS-----PERMANENT WANTS-----PERMANENT WANTS-----

Pain, Barry THE MEMOIRS OF CONSTANTIN DIX, THE PROBLEM CLUB quote others  
Pemberton, Max THE IRON PIRATE THE IMPREGNABLE CITY JEWEL MYSTERIES I HAVE  
KNOWN quote others Phillpotts, Eden MY ADVENTURES IN THE FLYING DUTCHMAN, LOUP  
GAROU quote others Pinkerton, Myron THE ROKWOOD MYSTERY THE CREOLE'S CRIME  
Pirkis, C.L. THE EXPERIENCES OF LOVEDAY BROOKE Robinson, B. Flezer THE CHRON-  
ICLES OF ADDINGTON PEIRCE THE TRAIL OF THE DEAD Rosenback, A.S.W. THE UNPUB-  
LISHABLE MEMOIRS R.R. Ryan Fleas quote  
Sims, George R. Dorcas Dene, Detective quote others. Smart, Hawley FALSE CARDS, AT  
FAULT quote others Speight, F.W. IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT HOODWINKED, quote others  
Spurr, Harry A THE VAULTED CHAMBER Stephens, Riccardo THE MUMMY Strange, Carlton  
THE BEECHCOURT MYSTERY PLEASE QUOTE OTHERS  
Upward, Allan THE WONDERFUL CAREER OF EBENEZER LOBB quote others Warden, Florence  
A SENSATIONAL CASE quote others "WATERS" THE RECOLLECTIONS OF A POLICEMAN A  
SKELETON IN EVERY HOUSE Please quote others White, Fred M. THE ROBE OF  
LUVIFER quote others Whitechurch, Victor L. THRILLING STORIES OF THE RAILWAYS  
Wood, Mrs. Henry THE PASSENGER FROM SCOTLAND YARD quote others.

All the above listed books are a permanent want, as is any Detective/Mystery  
material pre-1920. I would be very happy to hear from anyone who can offer  
such material. I am also interested in Science Fiction from the same era,  
and would be overjoyed to hear from anyone who can offer one title of many of  
that genre. Thank you once again, and I do hope to be hearing from you.

William Hopkins.

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For Sale: From J.G. Amedo, Box 522, Wyckoff Hgts. Station, Brooklyn, New York 11237  
Jack Mann (E. Charles Vivian) British writer of mystery fiction/fantasy during  
1920s-30s. GREY SHAPES: THE GLASS TOO MANY: THE NINTH LIFE: GEES' FIRST  
CASE. Black cloth, limited 1,000 copies. \$5.00 (US) per title. Pub. Bookfinger,  
1970s. Prefer collectors only. The original editions were issued by Wright  
& Brown Ltd during 1930s. All of the above are in the Gees Detective series.  
The older editions are considered quite rare.  
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THE ANTHONY BOUCHER MEMORIAL MYSTERY CONVENTION.. Bouchercon VI will be held  
at the Midland Hotel in Chicago Illinois July 18th-20th 1975.  
Guest speaker will be Robert L. Fish. Conference will open Friday with  
registration and get-acquainted cocktail party  
Registrations will be \$5 until June 1st and \$6 thereafter. Cheques payable  
to Bouchercon VI. For registration and additional information write to:-  
Bouchercon VI, Box 2579, Chicago, Illinois 60690. USA  
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FOR SALE: Michael Harrington's MURDER IN THE RUE ROYALE. London 1972. First  
British edition. Fine in dw. Total of 12 stories, five of which not contained in  
the Mycroft & Moran edition. Featuring Edgar Allen Poe's famous detective  
Auguste Dupin. £3. From Ferrett Fantasy, 27 Beechcroft Road, Upper Tooting,  
London, SW17  
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# REVIEWS GALORE

CARRINGTON'S CASES By Joseph Storer Clouston. This little volume of 12 stories, was first published by William Blackwood ' Son in 1920 and, as far as I know, never reprinted. It has made its mark with collectors chiefly I suspect, because of the intriguing pictorial cover. This shows a policeman holding a skull and a book titled ADVICE TO MOTHERS. Most of the stories are naive even absurd, and the plots hardly thicker than weak tea, and yet a redeeming humour pervades the book and somehow can absorb the reader in the story, who might otherwise be banging his head in frustrated patience.

Carrington himself, pictured on the front cover, illustrating the first tale, is pompous, a little egoistical, though extremely good-natured and rather endearing. His stories are full of engaging anecdotes, and though he is excruciatingly honest, we never find out much about him. He wears a monocle and declares he should have one for each eye, because the twinkle there often gives him away. He is a real showman and a master of disguise, finds women as detectives "useful", is a bachelor and will be until he "picks a girl ~~wishes~~ blessed innocence", a thing he strongly recommends, he is very well-known and a private investigator of no mean influence, that's about all!

The truth is that Carrington is nothing but a useful cut-out vehicle for Clouston's tales and the detective and all the characters in the book are two-dimensional stereotypes. Carrington is thus obviously unorthodox. How can this paradox be explained, how can unorthodoxy be obvious, how can he be endearing yet lacking in depth? The answer must be that modern cynicism cannot stomach a plain, simple tale with a mild surprise for an ~~ending~~, no more. Now we need character study, psychiatry to an obvious or lesser extent and above all numerous red herrings! Sadly Clouston lacks the ingenuity to pad these tales to a desirable length, they never extend beyond a short sharp chapter.

We meet Carrington in later life, and all the stories are dredged from his reluctant (or pseudo-reluctant) with style) memory. In one satirical and nicely witty chapter he relates how he met the Dr Watson, and proceeds to explain how he confounded, astounded and belittled this "woodenhead" bob bob sucking pal of Sherlock Holmes". Though he "looks on the whole like the illustrations (you caught the likeness Sidney)" and speaks exactly as in the books" he can never have been such a drip as the one who comes to consult Carrington. This book, published at 5/-, is now quite scarce, or as scarce as any modern book can be, but I bought this copy for 6d, which only goes to show..... Clouston had his first book published in 1897 by Nelson, it was VANDRAD THE VIKING and he wrote 34 titles till his last in 1941 BEASTMARK THE SPY.

The reviewer of this is unknown to me, as his name became separated from the article and, despite appeals from me, he has never written again. Ethel.



## Reviews 2

THE SHADOW IN THE SEA by Owen John. Dutton. \$6.95. 1972

PANIC by Bill Bronzini. Random House. \$5.95. 1972 Quite contrasting books. SHADOW is another chapter in the well conceived adventures of super-spy Haggai Godin, although you couldn't tell from the blurb that John had written several other excellent thrillers about Godin. John is unsung, but is one of the best going in this business. A new type of Soviet submarine shadows a merchant ship carrying weapons to Israel. But is it a submarine or another? Godin is sent on a 'mission impossible' to the submarine base deep in Northern Russia to find out if it has left the base. How can he possibly survive? It may sound obvious but it's well done and thoroughly entertaining. PANIC is also obvious and I skipped rapidly through to see if the obvious ending occurred. It did. A story of losers who are in the end ennobled. A man sees a contract killing. He flees and is chased, meets up with a girl. One sheriff's deputy is about the only one who can figure out what's happening. And so it goes on. I wasn't interested in the characters, it's the third Bronzini book that has rubbed me wrong. I'm just not part of the audience he is looking for.

Ted Serrill

AGAIN THE RINGER By Edgar Wallace. White Lion. Pub. London-New York. Henry Arthur Milton was The Ringer on the most wanted list of every police force in Europe. And he didn't care who knew it. The Ringer made it his business to see that justice was meted out to those who had hitherto flattered themselves they were beyond its reach. The Ringer was his own judge and jury. And if justice sometimes demanded that a man died for his crimes against society, Henry Arthur Milton was perfectly capable of being his own executioner as well. Which didn't make him popular with the authorities. They grudgingly had to admit that only the guilty need ever feel afraid of The Ringer. They unwillingly had to concede that The Ringer only ever acted against criminals, they had shown themselves powerless to deal with. Privately they would reluctantly even agree that, by and large, The Ringer might be said to be performing a public service. In public they insisted that he should be stopped. Which was easier to say than to do; for everyone knew The Ringer was, and what he stood for, no-one, but no-one knew what he looked like!

Al Brummer

THE PALERMO AFFAIR by Colin Forbes. Dutton. \$6.95. 1972. A mission impossible type story in the grand tradition. Two military officers must knock out a vital ferry between Sicily and Italy before the allies invade Sicily in 1943. Based on a true incident, they must enlist the aid of the Mafia to survive and accomplish the mission. Like MacLean at his best, Forbes keeps the tension screwed up as the duo, along with a Mafia leader and later a fourth man, move from one danger to another. They must enter at Palermo and work their way 200 miles across the harshest territory in the world to the Messina docks. It's a well-paced story of physical exertion and mental nimbleness carried to the extreme, more adroitly put together than Forbes's second book, THE HEIGHTS OF ZERVOS. Hardly anyone does this kind of war adventure anymore, and aficionados, it's a rare feast.

Ted Serrill

EVERY'S FORTUNE by William M. Green. Bobbs-Merrill. \$6.95. 1972. This is a good piece of story-telling, about a young man involved in a plot to steal a priceless work of art (for sentimental and vegeful) reasons from a millionaire ship-owner. Much of the action takes place on a couple of boats en route from New York to the Caribbean. The characters are stereotypes but fun.

Ted Serrill

### Reviews 3

THE BIG FOUR: by Edgar Wallace. Readers Library. The Big Four is the big noise in the underworld of crookdom. In Europe there are four separate gangs of big men, who generally work independantly but on occasions combine for their mutual benefit. In this exciting book we have a detective perfectly and fashionably 'turned-out'. He has just returned from New York where he had been pursuing his highly exciting calling. He is appointed by the dour Scotsman at the head of Federated Assurance as a private detective attached to the company. It is on the track of The Big Four that Mr Robert Brewer sets out. His quest takes him to Monte Carlo in the winter, Cowes in the summer and country houses in the autumn; for these 'undesirables' follow the fashionable world just as sharks follow the liner and for much the same reason. The various characters that take part in the exciting and thrilling adventures through which Brewer passes until he absolutely lands his fish into his net-a landing that is unique both in its conception and execution-are all clearly drawn and wonderfully interesting types; while some of the twists and turns that he employs are as clever as anything Wallace has ever invented. AL Brummer.

DANCE HALL OF THE DEAD: by Tony Hillerman. Avon PB. Jan 1975. This was the winner of the Edgar award for the best mystery story of the year. Deservedly so. It not only has a very taut mystery plot, but it introduces a Navaho reservation policeman who tracks down the murderer. The background is fascinating and one absorbs a tremendous amount of Indian lore in the process of reading this book. If you like mysteries and Indian culture this is the book for you! Ethel Lindsay

ABRACADABER by Peter Lovesey. Dell PB. Nov. 1974. This is another murder mystery which combines with an interesting back-ground. This one is set against the Victorian music-hall. Constable Thackeray of Scotland Yard has to find the back-stage killer and why so many of the variety acts are having very, very embarrassing accidents onstage. Off-beat and intriguing. Ethel Lindsay

DAST MAGAZINE: Nos 6 & 7 : From: Iwan Hedman, Flodins väg 5, S 152 00 Strängås, Sweden. Unfortunately he does not quote the price in either dollars or sterling. It says 30 for 6 but 30 what, I dunno! As the magazine is not in English I have to miss what looks like a wonderful bunch of articles. However I can enjoy the many fine photographs of authors in the mystery field, and also the checklists are extremely useful. There is one article in English by Derek Adley, a very fine one about the detective Van der Valk. Ethel Lindsay

XENOPHILE. No 7. Oct 74. From Nils Hardin, Box 9660, St Louis, MO 63122. This is a monthly advertiser for the collector. Apart from the adverts (a useful prowling ground) there are some fine articles. Here they are on Sexton Blake, Holmes, and the author Robert Bloch. There are also checklists, this issue features the Star Magazine. Ethel Lindsay Ethel Lindsay

FERRET FANTASY LTD. Catalogue No 8. From: George Locke, 27 Beechcroft Rd. Upper Tooting, London. SW17. Books for sale which covers SF, fantasy and some early mystery. Also Ethel Lindsay! Ethel Lindsay

SKYRACK'S EUROPEAN FANTASY TRADER No 15: From Ron Bennett, 36 Harlow Park Cresc. Harrogate. HG2 0AW. Yorkshire. England. 50p for 6. Mostly SF and comics for sale but there is always some crime in addition. Umm.. I don't mean that Ron is criminal.. but that he sells some crime books! Ethel Lindsay

Mystery\*File: Nos 5, 5½ and 6: From: Steve Lewis, 62 Chestnut Rd. Newington. CT 06111 USA. 4 for \$1 - every six weeks. A nice mixture, books for sale, articles and checklists. - has an extremely useful listing of all ACE Double mysteries. With this issue too, there is the appearance of even more useful letters from other mystery readers and collectors. Ethel Lindsay Ethel Lindsay

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## An EMMA LATHEN Checklist

by Joanna Burger

BANKING ON DEATH, published by Simon & Schuster 1961. Robert Schneider is a missing heir to a trust fund administered by the Sloan Bank, and Thatcher and Nicholls (a junior trust officer) have to find him. But when they do, they find he has been murdered in a blizzard, so no one has an alibi. And everyone seems to have a motive.

A PLACE FOR MURDER, 1963, takes us to Shatesbury, where the brother-in-law of Bradford Withers (president of the Sloan) is a prime suspect in the murder of Peggy Lindsay. Peggy was going to marry Gilbert Austin when he divorced Withers' sister. This one introduces us to the world of dog shows and dog handlers.

ACCOUNTING FOR MURDER, 1964 is one of the funniest. National Calculating has two divisions making the same instrument—one sells to the public and one to the Army. The one selling to the Army makes money, the other loses it. Fortinbras is going to find out why (he is a notable accountant, and a stockholder) and he does, but is killed before he can tell anyone else.

MURDER MAKES THE WHEELS GO ROUND, 1966. I wasn't too impressed. Michigan Motors has several executives convicted on price fixing. When they got out of jail one of them, Ray Jensen, intends to come back into the company in his old spot. But he is murdered before any announcement was made either way. The evidence that sent Ray to jail was sent to the authorities by some Michigan Motors employee, they don't know which one. I guess I'm just not interested in automobile manufacturers.

DEATH SHALL OVERCOME, 1966, is one of the best. Edward Parry, a Negro, is trying to get a seat on the Stock Exchange. Someone doesn't want him to get it, badly enough to try to poison him (and gets someone else by mistake) and then to try to shoot him. This book has a run on the market, and a march on Wall Street along with everything else. Civil Rights really interferes with business.

MURDER AGAINST THE GRAIN, 1967, is about a big Russian Wheat deal. A million dollar down payment on the wheat deal is sent to a thief who had sent the Sloan the proper papers for the check, but they are forged. So the Sloan has to pay twice for the same wheat. Naturally, Thatcher wants to get his money back, and the government doesn't want any trouble. Before it is over, a Russian troubleshooter comes over to help out.

A SWITCH IN TIME, 1968. An insurance company is fighting a lawsuit by the heirs of Pemberton Freebody. It seems Freebody tried to kill himself, but a passing truckdriver took him to the Southport Memorial Hospital for treatment. In the course of that treatment, they left seven haemostatic clips inside Freebody, and he died. And then someone kills one of the doctors.

COME TO DUST, 1968. Elliot Patterson disappears one day, and so does a £50,000 bearer bond. And the admission records for Brunswick College. All this causes a lot of trouble, especially for one of the aspiring entrants to Brunswick College—he gets himself killed during the homecoming game.

WHEN IN GREECE, 1969. Nicholls is in Greece, looking after a Sloan multi-million dollar project, when they have a revolution. And Nicholls turns up missing. And when Everett Gabler, their most aggressively cantankerous trust officer goes to Greece to see what happened, he is kidnapped off the street.

MURDER TO GO, 1969 The Sloan has loaned a large amount of money to Chicken Tonight, a chain of 'take-out' restaurants. Then people come down sick

## EMMA LATHEN CHECKLIST 2

after eating at a CT place. And the man who put the poison in the food turns up murdered. Fun and games all around.

PICK UP STICKS, 1970, covers the Appalachian Trail (for hikers) and a vacation housing development. Steven Lester gets himself killed and Thatcher finds out why. I didn't like this one too much.

ASHES TO ASHES, 1971. The New York diocese wants to sell St Bernadette's Parochial School, and the parents don't want them to. When the leader of the parents ~~group~~ is killed, the situation breaks down to include riots, picketing slumlords, and Bhagavad Catholics.

THE LONGER THE THREAD, 1971, is about the garment industry, this time in Puerto Rico. Slax Unlimited is being sabotaged, a man is killed, and the owner is kidnapped. This even has an effect upon the local elections.

MURDER WITHOUT ICING, 1972 Ice Hockey & The Sloan are the unlikely companions in this book. But why should anyone want to kill a hockey player when his team shoots from last place to first place and has a good chance to win the Stanley Cup?

Emma Lathen makes Wall Street an amusing place to work—I don't think I would find it so if I worked there, but the books are definitely amusing.

Joanne Burger

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I'd like to add to Joanna's fine listing, that these books she has commented upon have also given me the greatest pleasure. I suppose I liked A STITCH IN TIME best because of the hospital background and the way the villains got their comeuppance. Very satisfying that! Most likeable character was in ACCOUNTING FOR MURDER, but just as I was getting to enjoy him, he was the one who was killed! Most hilarious moment comes in DEATH SHALL OVERCOME when the when the SLOAN is filled with demonstrators singing WE SHALL OVERCOME and the Sloan Glee Club comes out to join them. Ethel Lindsay

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Some of you who do not confine your collecting to the mystery field, may be interested in the latest piece of bibliography that I have acquired. This is VOYAGES IN SPACE & Bibliography of Interplanetary Fiction 1801-1914 compiled by George Locke. There is an interesting introduction clearly setting out the aim of the book. Each title is very well annotated containing explanations of the contents, and its history. I should think this would be interesting to anyone eager to learn about the literature of these dates, regardless of an interest in the actual subject matter. At anyrate it can be obtained from Ferret Fantasy whose address is given elsewhere in this issue.

\*\*\*\*\* Ethel Lindsay \*\*\*\*\*



Paperbacks for sale from Ethel Lindsay 6 Lagley Ave. Surbiton, Surrey. KT6 6QL. UK.  
All at \$1/40p. Overseas buyers please add 50% for postage. Please make all  
cheques and money orders payable to Ethel Lindsay...NOT TMT.

Money refunded if not satisfied. Overseas buyers allow six weeks for delivery  
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ARMSTRONG Charlotte: The Unsuspected..A little less than kind...The gift shop  
Mischief

ALLINGHAM Margery: More work for the undertaker...Dancers in Mourning..No love  
lost...Case of the late pig.

BENTLEY Nicholas: Third party risk

BIGGERS Earl Derr: The Black Camel..Charlie Chan carries on..The Chinese parrot

BLAKE Nicholas: A question of proof..The case of the abominable snowman.

BROWN Carter: Girl in a shroud

BERKELEY Anthony: Trial and error

CREASEY John: Inspector West alone..The league of dark men..The Toff at the  
fair..Prepare for action..The crime haters..Elope to death..A doll for the  
Toff..Triumph for Inspector West..The Flood

CROFTS Freeman Wills: The 12.30 from Croydon..The sea mystery..The loss of the  
Jane Vosper..Crime at Guildford.

CARR John Dickson: The case of the constant suicides..The Crooked hinge..The  
waxworks murder..The mad hatter mystery...Below suspicion

CHARTERIS Leslie: The bandit..Senor Saint

CRISPIN Edmund: Frequent hearses..The moving toyshop

COLES Manning: A toast to tomorrow..Among those absent..Drink to yesterday..

DEAN Robert George: A murder by marriage

DICKSON Carter: Night at the mocking widow..The plague court murders

DISNEY Doris Miles: Testimony by silence..At some forgotten door

EDEN Dorothy: Darling Clementine..Listen to danger..The deadly travellers  
The marriage chest

ELLIN Stanley: The key to Nicholas Street..Dreadful summit

GRUBER Frank: The gamecock murders..The buffalo box..A job of murder..Swing  
low, swing dead HIGHSMITH Patricia: A suspension of mercy

GILBERT Anthony: And death came too..Murder lifts the mask..Murder comes home

GRIBBLE Leonard: The stolen home secretary

GRIERSON Francis D.: The limping man

HALLIDAY Brett: The corpse that never was..Before I wake..In a deadly vein..  
Fit to kill..What really happened.

HITCHCOCK Alfred: A month of mystery Book 2

HOUSEHOLD Geoffrey: A time to kill..uncorrected proof copy

HEYER Georgette: The unfinished clue..They found him dead..Death in the stocks  
Duplizzate death..Beauvallet..These old shades..Sylvester..The Grand Sophy  
Devils cub..Faro's daughter.

HAMMETT Dashiell: Red harvest HORNUNG E.W.: Raffles

IRISH William: Phantom lady INNES Hammond: Maddons rock

JESSE Tennyson F: A pin to see the peepshow KANE Frank: Trigger mortis..The

KANE Frank: Trigger mortis..The fatal foursome

KEATING H.R.F: Zen there was murder..Death of a fat god..Is skin deep is fatal

KANE Henry: Mask for murder..My business is murder

LAWRENCE Hilga: The deadly pavilion..Death of a doll

Leithen Erna: Barking on death. LARIAR Lawrence: He died laughing

LOCKRIDGE F&R: Case of the murdered redhead

MILNE A.A.: The fourth wall. Play in three acts

MILLS Arthur: Judgement of death MARCH Maxwell: Rogue's holiday

MARSH Ngaio: False scent..Clutch of constables..Dead water..Death in a white tide  
Surfeit of lampreys..Death in ecstasy..Death and the dancing footman

HARE Cyril: When the wind blows..Suicide excepted

Paperbacks for sale contd.

MACDONALD Ross: Black money..The ivory grin..The Ferguson affair..Experience with evil...  
HAGGARD William: The powder barrel  
MOYES Patricia: Murder fantastical..Down among the dead men  
MASUR Harold Q.: So rich so lovely so dead..The big money..Murder on Broadway  
MILLER Wade: Sinner take all. MARQUAND John P.: Don't ask questions  
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