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**NO 273**

A stylish and charming new model, for medium and petite figures, combining the advantages of the girdele top, with those of the medium long hip corset.

Produces lines of exquisite shapeliness and grace, imparts absolute comfort and a superb figure.

Made of Imported Coutil, rust-proof boning throughout, one of the best sellers ever made.

On sale at your dealer, if not, write for Descriptive Circular.

**DOMINION CORSET CO., Mfrs.**  
Quebec, Montreal, Toronto.

**Fashion Hint for Times Readers**



**JET WITH LINEN—THE NEW FAD**

Some of the linen chat and skirt suits that are being finished for Easter trousseaux are trimmed with jet buttons and have turnover collars faced with black linen, a little black silk necktie completing the dashing effect. The linen suit shown is in the new begonia pink shade, and the jet buttons and watch chain, combined with the black tie and collar facing make a very smart effect. Bisont and Havana brown linens are also seen with these black trimmings, and even white linen and pique suits still have the sombre, yet snappy ornamentation.

**A Mysterious Disappearance**  
By Gordon Holmes

(Continued.)

"So he it. Let them go on to their bitter end. If my wife was tired of my society she might at least have got rid of me in an easier manner."

With this trite reflection Sir Charles quitted his friend's house.

Bruce sat motionless for a long time. Then, as his mind became calmer, he lit a cigar, took out the doubly mysterious letter, and examined it in every possible way, critically and microscopically.

There could be no doubt that it was a genuine production. The conditions of the ink bore out the correctness of the date, and the fact that the note paper and envelope were not of Continental style was not very material.

It did not appear to have been enclosed in another envelope, as the writer implied for the purpose of being reposed in London. Rather did the slightly frayed edges give rise to the assumption that it had been carried in some one's pocket before postage. But this theory was vague and unconvincing.

The handwriting was Lady Dyke's; the style, allowing for the strange conditions under which it was written, was hers; yet Bruce did not believe in it.

Nothing could shake his faith in the one solid, concrete certainty that stood out from a mass of contradictions and mystery—Lady Dyke was dead, and buried in a pauper's grave at Putney.

At last, wearied with thought and theorizing, he went to bed; but Smith sat up late to regale his partner with the full, true, and particular narrative of the "bold scrym" on her knees, and the strange "red looking" as though he would like to murder Mr. White.

**CHAPTER XXIV**  
**THE HANDWRITING.**

Like most men, Claude took a different view of events in the morning to that which he entertained over night.

Yesterday, the surprises of the hour were concrete embodiments, each distinct and emphatic. Today they were merged in the general mass of contradictory details that made up this most bewildering inquiry.

That matters could not be allowed to rest in their present state was clear; that they would, in the natural course of things, reveal themselves more definitely, even if unaided, was also patent.

Mrs. Hillmer's partial admissions, her brother's evident knowledge of some salient features of the puzzle, that utterly strange letter in the handwriting of Lady Dyke herself, and bearing the prosaic testimony of dates stamped by the Post-office—these sensational elements, when brought into juxtaposition, could not avoid reaction into clearer phases.

Long experience in criminal investigation told him that, under certain circumstances, the best course of all was one of inactivity.

On the basis of the accepted truism in the affairs of many people that "letters left unanswered answer themselves," the barrister knew that there must be an outcome from the queer medley of occurrences at his residence on the Monday evening.

Reviewing the history of the past three months several odd features stood out from the general jumble.

In the first place, he wondered why he had failed to produce any pertinent fact from the manner in which Mrs. Hillmer's dining-room was furnished on the occasion of his first visit to Raleigh Mansions.

He distinctly remembered noting his reception in an unusual room littered with unusual articles, when the luxurious and well-appointed suite of apartments was considered as a whole. It was suggested to him at the time that the drawing-room, which he saw during his second visit, was dismantled earlier, but he did not connect this trivial incident with the feature in Montmorency's flat that he noted immediately—namely, the discrepancies between the arrangement of the sitting-room and the other chambers in the place.

These things were immaterial now, but he indexed them as a guide for future use.

Lady Dyke's motive for that secret visit to Raleigh Mansions—that was the key of the mystery. But how to discover it? Who was her confidant? To whom could he turn for possible enlightenment? It was useless to broach the matter again to

her husband. The baronet and his wife had been friends sharing the same menage rather than husband and wife. Her relatives had already been appealed to in vain. They knew nothing of the slightest value in the search for truth.

In this train of thought the name of Jane Harding cropped up. She was the personal maid of the deceased lady. She had sharp eyes and quick wits. Her queer antics shortly after the inquest were not forgotten. Here at least was a possibility of light if the girl would speak.

If she refused what could be her motive? Anyhow it was worth while to make a fresh effort. Early in the afternoon he called at the stage-door of the Jolly Theatre.

"Is Miss Marie le Marchant still employed here?" he asked the attendant.

"I dunno," was the careless answer.

"Well, think hard," said the barrister, laying a half-crown on the latter's blotting pad which is an indispensable part of the furniture in the letter bureau of a theatre.

"Yes, sir, I believe she is, but she has been away on a week's leave."

"Indeed. Has she returned?"

"It was off last night, sir, but if you will pardon me a moment I'll inquire from the man who took my place."

The stage-doorkeeper disappeared into the dark interior, to return quickly with the information that Miss le Marchant had appeared as usual on Monday night.

"She was away most part of last week, sir," added the man, "and I believe it wasn't a holiday, as she was a sort of flurried about as if some one was ill."

"Thank you. Do you know where she lives?"

A momentary hesitation was soon softened by another half-crown.

"It's against the rules, sir. If you were to find yourself near Jubilee Buildings, Bloomsbury, you would not be far out."

The information was sound, Miss Marie le Marchant's name was painted outside a second-floor flat.

Bruce knocked, and the door was opened by an elderly woman whom he had no difficulty in recognizing.

"Is your daughter in, Mrs. Harding?" he said.

"For a moment she could not speak for surprise.

"Well I never," she cried, "but London is a funny place. Do you know me, sir?"

"Any one would recognize you from your daughter, if they did not take you for her elder sister," he said. Bruce's smile was irresistible.

"My daughter is not in just now, sir," replied Mrs. Harding, "but I expect her in to tea almost immediately."

"When may I come in and await her arrival?"

"Certainly, sir."

Once inside the flat, he was impressed by the pretentious but fairly comfortable nature of its appointments; the ex-lady's maid's legacy must have been a nice one to enable her to live in such style, as the poor pitance of a coryphoe would barely pay the rent and taxes. Moreover, the presence of her mother in the establishment was a distinct favor in her favor.

Mrs. Harding had brought the visitor to the sitting-room. She seated herself near the window and resumed her sewing.

"Have you been long in town, Mrs. Harding?" he said by way of being civil.

"In London, do you mean, sir? About two months. Ever since my daughter got along so well in her new profession. She's a good girl, is my daughter."

"Miss Harding is doing well on the stage then?"

"Oh, yes, sir. Why, she's been earning £3 a week, and last week she was sent on a special engagement, which paid her so well that she's going to buy me a new dress out of the money."

"Really," said the barrister, "son ought to be proud of her."

"I am," admitted the admiring mother. "I only wish her brother, who went off and 'listed for a sojor, had turned out half as well."

Mrs. Harding nodded towards a photograph of a cavalry soldier in uniform on the mantelshelf, and Bruce rose to examine it, inwardly marvelling at the intelligence he had just received. Was it reasonable that the girl could be the recipient of a legacy without the knowledge of her mother? In any case, why did she conceal the real nature of her earnings? The story about "£3 a week" was a myth.

Near to the portrait of the gallant huzar was a large plaque presenting of Miss Marie herself, in all the glory of tights, wig and make-up. Across it was written, in the best theatrical style, "Ever yours sincerely, Marie le Marchant." And no sooner had Bruce caught sight of the words than he almost shouted aloud in his amazement.

The handwriting was identical with that of Lady Dyke.

Gulping down his surprise, he devoured the signature with his eyes. The resemblance was truly remarkable. What on earth could be the explanation of this phenomenon.

"Your daughter is a remarkably nice writer, Mrs. Harding," he said, turning the photograph towards her.

**DR. PUGSLEY AGAIN ROUTS CONSERVATIVE MUCKRAKERS**

**Opposition Members Try to Rake up Another Dredging "Scandal," But Minister of Public Works Soon Takes Bottom Out of Story.**

Ottawa, March 10.—The opposition today made another effort in the public accounts committee to show that Dussault & Lemioux made an undue profit on a dredging contract at Quebec. The result of the sitting, however, was that Dr. Pugsley showed that the contract had been a most provident one for the government.

The first time the contract was up the opposition by looking into only a portion of the transaction made it appear that the contractors got a government dredge to do the work, for which they charged the government seventy-five cents a yard and gave a rebate of fifteen cents a yard, leaving them a profit of sixty cents a yard, for which they did not work.

At the next meeting Dr. Pugsley showed that the government had sold the contractors so much dredged material for filling, that when accounts for dredging were closed the contractors were found to be indebted to the government to the extent of \$2,332.

Today Mr. Northrup made another effort to develop a scandal by examining Government Engineer Valiquette to show that on 65,000 cubic yards of dredging the government had paid the contractors \$47,020, who had paid back to the government \$22,000, leaving them a margin of profit of about \$25,000. For the filling of the cribs they had been paid thirty-two cents a yard for the material they bought from the government for fifteen cents a yard. On 150,000 yards they had made a profit of about \$25,500 or about 300,000 profit on the two transactions.

The minister of public works then examined the engineer and developed the fact that on the filling work, in addition to what they had to pay for material, the contractors were under an expense of from seven to ten cents to place it. They had paid fifteen cents a yard for 150,000 yards of material for which the government would have received nothing, but would have been under the expense of hauling it away and disposing of it; that under any other arrangement the government would have had to have done this dredging at a cost of forty-seven cents a yard.

When the transaction was considered as a whole the original statement was substantially correct that the government had received \$2,332 more than it had paid out on the transaction.

Mr. Valiquette stated that the tender of Dussault & Lemioux was the lowest received. It had turned out that the arrangement made for the use of the government dredge was most profitable for the government.

The opposition concluded that they had enough and it was decided to report the evidence to the house.

**ST. JOHN MAN'S SUGGESTION NOT A PRACTICABLE PLAN**

**Hon. Mr. Graham So Refers to J. S. Armstrong's Substitute for the Quebec Bridge—The U. S. Senate Mangled the Waterways Treaty—Discussion Over N. S. Public Works.**

Ottawa, March 10.—The commons this afternoon gave most of the time of its four hours' sitting to the discussion of Nova Scotia public works, the vote for Annapolis harbor being the item chiefly dealt with. Before going into supply a number of other matters were touched upon.

Hon. Mr. Graham, in answer to Mr. Lennox, said that the suggestion of J. S. Armstrong, C. E., of St. John, to substitute for the Quebec bridge, a submerged steel viaduct was an impracticable plan. He said that it had been decided that the bridge should have a height of 150 feet at high tide and a centre opening of not less than 600 feet.

Mr. Monk asked the government to declare its intention in regard to the co-operation bill, which had passed the commons last session, as a government measure and had been rejected by the senate. The bill had been most carefully studied by the government and a committee of the commons. Mr. Monk was going to discuss the proceedings in the senate when the speaker informed him that it was not proper for the member of one house to discuss the action of another house of parliament.

Mr. Lemioux stated that the government had not changed its opinion that the co-operative plan was a valuable one. It had been impressed by the strong expression of feeling that such legislation was within the jurisdiction of the provinces, rather than in the federal parliament. This view had been strongly pressed by both Ontario and Quebec. In view of the facts the government thought that it would be wise to let the bill stand for a time and in the meantime the people could be educated to the principles of co-operation.

Ralph Smith, while admitting that the provinces had the right to pass such legislation, thought that the dominion had concurrent rights. He thought that the minister of labor was on the down grade on the question.

Mr. Boyce wanted to know as to the truth of reports that the United States senate had passed the waterways bill with an important rider.

Sir Wilfrid said that was the case. The rider materially interfered with the disposition of the water of St. Mary's river. However, the treaty had not yet been ratified by the British authorities and the government of Canada had sent a despatch to England asking for authority to lay the treaty on the table of the Canadian house, so that its terms might be studied by the members. He hoped that the permission would be given shortly.

Public works estimates were taken up in supply, the first item called being one of \$45,000 for harbor improvements and an ice pier at Annapolis.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said that there had been tenders called for the work but nothing had been done, because the lowest tenderer declined to sign the contract and the building of three ice piers would cost about \$50,000.

Mr. Foster said that this would make the cost of the pier from \$150,000 to \$160,000 and he did not think that the government was justified in doing so.

Mr. Pugsley said that the undertaking for the building of the pier had been given before he became a member of the government. His inquiries convinced him that there was every justification for the expenditure. The shipments from Annapolis were considerable and would increase and the construction of the ice piers would make the harbor safe for use in the winter.

Mr. Foster thought this was a work which could wait. It would be an outrage to spend so much money on ice piers at such a place.

Mr. Pickup, the member for Annapolis, said the construction of the pier would make Annapolis a safe harbor in winter and he thought the work quite as important as was the work of developing the larger harbors of the east upon which great sums were being spent.

Mr. Ames expressed the belief that the vote for the work was being rushed through under false pretences and that what was being sought was not so much an aid to navigation as a foundation for a provincial bridge. He asked if there had been negotiations with the province of Nova Scotia on the point.

Dr. Pugsley said that there had been no such negotiations since he entered the government. The work as an aid to navigation had been recommended by Mr. Bodwell, an engineer, who had looked carefully into the plan.

Mr. Blain asked Mr. Pickup, the member for the county, if it was proposed to have these ice piers used as a bridge foundation.

Mr. Pickup—I have heard of no such proposal.

Mr. Blain wanted the minister of public works to give a pledge that he would not allow the pier to be made use of in connection with a bridge.

Dr. Pugsley said that he had learned it was not necessary to say good morning until you meet a friend. However, he would say that the pier would not be allowed to be made use of as a bridge foundation unless the government was given ample compensation.

Mr. Jamieson, of Digby, said that he was informed that the Dominion Atlantic Railway had a plan for a bridge across the Sissiboo river at Weymouth with only a draw of thirty-five feet. He protested against this, declaring that the requirements of navigation called for a wider span. If the company was prepared to build with a wider span he thought that the government might contribute toward the work.

Dr. Pugsley said that the railroad contended that if it was to be forced to the expense of making a fifty or sixty foot span in the interests of navigation the dominion should contribute. The matter was under consideration and he could not say what action would be taken.

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**NOVA SCOTIA GIRL WHIPS HUB LAWYER**

**Miss Jessie McClellan Horse Whips George A. Sweetser on State Street Boston**

Boston, March 9.—Publicly whipped on State street near the stock exchange was the treatment George Sweetser, a prominent lawyer, received today at the hands of Miss Jessie B. McClellan, a Nova Scotia girl. Earlier Miss McClellan struck Llewellyn Pulsifer, selectman of Natuck, with a whip in mistake for Sweetser. Then she went to Sweetser and waited in front of the lawyer's office. As Sweetser and former Assistant Attorney General Nash were leaving the building to go to the court house, Miss McClellan drew a dog whip from the folds of her dress and belabored Sweetser. Exclaiming on the street, "I finally separated the two," an arrest was made, although both were booked at the police station. Miss McClellan hails from Colchester County, Nova Scotia. Two years ago she sued John F. Moore for breach of promise and Sweetser was Moore's lawyer. The plaintiff claims Sweetser made himself obnoxious during the conduct of the case. The suit is still pending.

Don't drug the stomach, or stimulate the heart or kidneys. That is wrong. It is the weak nerves that are crying out for help. Vitalize these weak inside controlling nerves with Dr. Shoop's Restorative, and see how quickly good health will come to you again. Test it and see! Sold by all druggists.

**WOMAN WHO TAUGHT SIR CHARLES TUPPER**

London, Ont., March 9.—Mrs. Sarah McCully celebrated her one hundredth birthday the other day, having been born in Halifax, N. S., in 1805. Until she was 93 years of age she was able to read a newspaper without glasses, and until she was 97 she read the paper every day, although for the last five years she had used glasses.

In spite of her advanced age Mrs. McCully leaves her advanced morning at daylight and retires at dark, both winter and summer. The only faculties impaired by the lapse of time are her eyesight and her hearing. Some time ago she lost the sight of one eye through an attack of la grippe.

Her memory is a phenomenal one. When interviewed she recalled many things which have made the history of Canada.

While living in Halifax Mrs. McCully moved in the best circles and was a society leader. She taught Sunday school class and Sir Charles Tupper was one of her pupils.

Judge McCully, one of the fathers of confederation, was a brother of her husband.

In mentioning the laws of the country at that time she said that the Church of England ministers and magistrates were allowed to marry people. Those who wanted to be married by another minister were forced to cross the line to New Brunswick.

In 1833 Mrs. McCully left Halifax with her husband and landed at Port Stanley, after having had a stormy voyage up the lake. She came through the Erie canal, the boat being towed by a horse. When she arrived at Port Stanley she was not impressed favorably with the country. Her husband bought a farm in the township of Howard, in the County of Kent, which she still owns.

She said that Ontario was then covered with a huge forest populated with snakes, wild turkeys and wolves, which howled about the door at night, making it unsafe for anyone to venture out, she said.

"The first morning I woke up in my new home I was greatly depressed," she said. "If I had the wings of a wild goose I would have flown away never to return."

Mrs. McCully has two sons and two daughters still living, and they are all old men and women. The sons are Dr. J. McCully of Cedar Springs; Dr. S. McCully of the United States; and the daughters are Mrs. Rowell, of Bismarck, and Mrs. Westlake, of Kingsmill. She has also thirteen grandchildren, and a large number of great grandchildren.

The lowest priced tea is not the cheapest. "Brown Label" "Salads" Tea at 30c. per pound makes many more cups than any tea sold at 25c. per pound. It is therefore not only more economical to use, but it is infinitely more delicious. 122.

The ladies' mission study class of the six Baptist churches will meet this evening in the parlor of Main street church. The programme is in the hands of Mrs. E. M. Sipprell, who will be assisted by several talented workers.

**EAGLE Brand Condensed MILK**



THE OLD RELIABLE; STOOD THE TEST OF TIME.

**YOU CAN'T IMPROVE ON BORDEN'S**

Borden's Condensed Milk Co., Established 1857. Originators of Condensed Milk.

Largest manufacturers of milk products in the world.

**Wm. H. DUNN, Agent, Montreal.**

SEND BABY'S PHOTO to The Evening Times, St. John, N. B. for entry in Borden's Baby Competition. Write name and address on back of photo, and attach a label of a can of "Eagle Brand." After St. John Competition, photos will be sent by us to Toronto Sunday World for entry in Grand Contest. Open to all children of Canada under 3 years of age. 20 Valuable Prizes—20 Diplomas—Contest closes March 13th. See special announcement, Saturday issue.

**BAIRD & PETERS, Wholesale Distributors, St. John, N. B.**

**TO ASK GOVERNMENT TONIGHT FOR LIQUOR LAW AMENDMENTS**

**Social and Moral Reform Council Prepares Demands on the Government at Annual Meeting Held Here Yesterday.**

The New Brunswick government will tonight hear a delegation from the N. B. Social and Moral Reform Council who will ask for certain specific amendments to the liquor license act. The proposed amendments were decided on at a meeting of the council yesterday afternoon but were not given to the public. It is understood, however, that the government will be asked to amend section 21, the local veto section, so as to allow a majority of the vote cast to carry the measure.

A novel proposition in reference to prohibition was under consideration for a time. This was for a prohibitory law but with the right of a city or municipality to call for a vote if they did not want it, thus putting the burden of campaign on the liquor interests.

The annual meeting of the Moral and Social Reform Council was held in the Y. M. C. A. building yesterday afternoon. Delegates were present from St. John and other centres of the province representing the following churches or associations:

Methodists—Revs. C. H. Flanders, N. McLaughlin, C. W. Squires, Thos. Marshall, F. J. Deinstead, J. C. Berrie, Marysville; J. M. McConnell, Fredericton; Chas. Langley and M. D. Austin.

Presbyterians—Revs. A. A. Graham, Gordon Dickie, L. A. McLean, J. J. McKaskill, David Lang, J. H. Anderson, H. Staver, Harcourt, and A. Malcolm and A. W. Robb.

Church of England—Rev. W. H. Sampson, and J. P. D. Tilley.

Roman Catholic—Dr. J. P. McInerney, M. P. P. M. E. Ager and Thos. Kieckhahn.

Temperance Federation—Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Porter, Messrs. R. H. Collier, K. D. Spear, E. S. Hennigan and Chas. Hutchings.

Salvation Army—Major J. M. McGilroy, Lieut. Chas. Verge, Lieut. A. M. Stronham, Capt. A. Boyd.

Lord's Day Alliance—Rev. J. Crisp and R. Reid.

Baptists—Revs. A. B. Cohoe, W. R. Robinson, G. Swim, B. Beatty, B. N. Noble, W. Camp, and Dr. G. U. Hay, Mr. Ring, C. E. Vail and D. L. Nobles.

In the absence of the president and vice-president, Dr. G. U. Hay was elected chairman. The secretary being also absent, Robert Reid was elected secretary of the meeting.

A proposal which has never before been suggested in this province was considered. It is that the government be asked to enact a prohibitory law with a local option proviso, by means of which any ward or parish or town or municipality or city may exempt itself from the provisions of the law, by the usual local option.

After some consideration this was laid on the table for the present and will be taken up at a future meeting. It was felt that the question of pressing importance was that of the amendments which are wanted to the present license law.

The meeting then undertook the consideration of certain proposed amendments to the license law and arrived at a unanimous decision in every case.

The following members were appointed by the meeting to wait on the government committee this evening: Dr. G. U. Hay, Rev. A. A. Graham, Rev. W. R. Robinson, Miles E. Ager and Thos. Kieckhahn. They will lay the findings of the meeting before the government for their consideration. None interested would say last night what amendments will be asked for.

The nominating committee made the following report:

Hon. Pres. Bishop Richardson.  
Pres., Rev. A. A. Graham.  
Vice-Pres., Dr. G. U. Hay.  
Sec., A. A. Wilson, K. G.  
Treas., Andrew Malcolm.  
Executive Committee—Rev. Gordon Dickie, Rev. W. R. Robinson, Dr. H. S. Bridges, Rev. J. S. Armstrong, R. T. Hayes, A. H. Hamington, K. G. J. W. Smith, Col. M. Campbell, the vice-president for N. B. of the Trades and Labor Congress, Col. J. M. McGillivray and M. E. Ager.

A letter was received, after the meeting closed, from Bishop Richardson, expressing his regret at his being unable to attend.

**How's This?**

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

Walding, Kiman & Marvin,  
Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

**The Times Daily Puzzle Picture**



**NO ALIMONY, EITHER.**

It is a very pleasant quarter, Is Japan, Where your wife, when you have bought her, Is in Japan, Is by contract wedded to you For a month, and when it's through, you Ship her, and she cannot see you, In Japan.

Find her husband.

**ANSWER TO YES-YERDAYS' PUZZLE.**  
Upside down, nose under chin. Puzzle.

**DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS**

**CURES ALL KIDNEY DISEASES**

GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, BRIGHT'S DISEASE, DIABETES, BACKACHE, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, SLEUTH, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE URINARY SYSTEM.

Yellow glass gives a cheerful effect to rooms situated that they do not receive sunshine.

Only One "BROMO QUININE" that is **Laxative Bromo Quinine** on every **Cures a Cold in One Day, Cures in 2 Days** box, 25c