

"SALADA" TEA

Brown Label Quality, 38c 1/2-lb.
Blue Label Quality, 43c 1/2-lb.
Red Label Quality, 48c 1/2-lb.
Gold Label Quality, 53c 1/2-lb.
Four grades sold in Black, Green and Mixed Blends.

Lowest Prices in Canada For Fine Teas



John Ainsley,
Master Thief
Arthur Somers Roche

LEGERDEMAIN

BEGIN HERE TODAY

John Ainsley, a man of education and breeding, whose life wound left him unfit for manual labor, returns hungry to his shabby boarding-house. To pay his landlord's rent for his room—\$1—he is compelled to pawn an ivory miniature of his mother. At the pawnshop he is puz-
zled by the sight of a prosperous-looking, well-collared man dicker-
ing with the broker.

After leaving the shop, Ainsley hur-
ries to a little restaurant to get food. He is stopped in the entrance by the
well-collared individual, who takes to the
man's home and is received with hot
soup. As he eats, Ainsley tries to take
stock of his host and his surroundings.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

I rose from the bed and opened my curtains. I was sure that there was nothing in it that would identify Mrs. Gannon, my missing lodger, as John Ainsley, but I wished to be positive. Pride forbade that, even after I was dead, persons who once had known me should know the humiliation of my end.

I closed the case and sat down once more, up on the bed, to gather all my strength. As I sat there I thought of the man who had fed me. The display of money which he had made was evidence that he was an extremely successful criminal, probably one of those "super-criminals" created by the police to cover up their own incompetence.

I laughed at the idea. This man was nothing but the most mediocre sort of person. Beyond a vicious cunning, he possessed no mentality at all. The reason for his success lay in the fact that the men opposite to him, the police, were also mediocrities. Imagine a man of real intellect despising himself to the stupid career of crime-detention! Graduated policemen were the detectives who protected society against the schemes of such as my well-collared friend. And while a policeman may be morally and physically an exceptional person, mentally he is at the level of a lappet.

The supercriminal existed only in newspapers. In reality he was a person as my well-collared friend. And the limitations of that had been made clearly evident tonight. He knew his limitations, and had asked my aid to expose them. Why, if I chose, I could be a supercriminal, if real, if I were invented to please the press of newspaper headlines and front pages.

I knew him to be Daragon, the jeweler.

I knew him to be Daragon, the jeweler.

weak and hungry again. In the hall Little Peter met me.

"When you going to make a penny disappear for me, Mr. Ainsley?" he demanded.

I smiled at him. "I'm going to make something bigger than a penny disappear, Peter," I told him.

"When?" he asked.

"Pretty soon," I replied.

"Will you let me see you?" he asked.

"You know about it," I assured him.

Smiling at my double-entendre, I left the house. And as I walked toward Carey's, my resolution grew stronger. If a man can't live as a gentleman should live, why live at all? Life is rather unendurable at best; only comfort and luxury mitigate its severity. I laughed as I passed rows of tenements. What fools these people were to continue in the prison of life! A tragically humorous thought occurred to me; suppose that these people, who lived in these grimy tenements, and in similar or worse habitations all over the world, should decide to quit the bitter struggle for mere existence? Suppose, instead of going on strike, or starting riots, or turning Bolsheviks, they chose by lot a certain number, and that certain number immediately killed themselves? On the next day another number would kill themselves, and the remainder would declare publicly their intention of following the suicidal example. In a week or two society would be so alarmed that it would be offering palaces on Fifth Avenue to the poor if they would merely come to the poor.

Then I smiled at my own heart. I had had my opportunity to become a criminal earlier this evening, and had refused it.

I had no intention of changing my mind, and accepting the offer of my well-collared friend.

So, then, let me die as a gentleman, should, without repinings, or anger, or sneers, or other vulgarities. And

taken ten generations of the forbears to produce me.

I did not profess to own the creative virtue of my family traditions. I was qualified to judge the works of creative artists and say: "This is good; that is bad."

Such as we were produced upon this earth to guide and instruct the common people. We were not meant to battle in tawdry ways on the gross material things of life. The supreme achievement of evolution in the gentleman and society permits a gentleman to starve. I can conceive no harsher indictment against society.

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for instance, that girl who sat across the narrow room from me would be undoubtably better off if she joined me on my stroll to the dock than if she remained with the gross beast who was her dinner companion.

For she patently showed that he disgusted her. Pretty, extremely so, with black hair, and blue eyes and, I guess, from what appeared above the table, a charming figure, she belonged to youth, not to bloated age. And the fact that her eyes were hard and mercenary made no difference. They were so merely because advantages

had been denied her. I could discern that the attentions of her companion beckoned her.

Yet though I could see her shrink at the touch of his flabby hand upon her own, she did not push it away. She smiled, and apparently answered terms of endearment with verbal caresses. Utterly she was a rich! Doubtless she was to share his wealth. Well, I was glad to be about to leave a world where such things were endured.

I raised my hand to beckon to my waiter. Then I dropped it, for into the room came my well-collared friend, advancing to the table where sat the couple who had excited my disgusted interest, greeting them cordially, being hailed darling were illuminated.

I wondered if these were the gang which I suspected must be associated with him. Then noting a meaning glance exchanged between him and the girl, I knew that while she might be an associate of his, her gross companion was, if not already a victim, destined to be one. I postponed my departure. I had two cigarettes left; amusement would go well with my last tobacco. And as usual my acquaintance of the early evening had turned his back to me. As I sat down, there was no danger that my presence would interfere with his plans—provided, of course, that he had any plans, and that I had not misinterpreted the pregnant glance between him and the girl.

As I watched the three, the gross man produced a little box from his waistcoat pocket. It was the sort of box that would contain a watch, and the sight of it evoked memories. I wondered if I had not recognized the huge-featured man before. For years I had more than once entered his jewelry establishment on Fifth Avenue. I knew him to be Daragon, one of the most famous jewelers of America, and one of its most notorious rascals.

He had changed greatly since I had seen him strutting pomposly through the aisles of his fashionable establishment. Added years of loose living had brought more flesh and that dead pall to his face. But I recognized him; the sight of the little cardboard box had aroused remembrance. I had bought trinkets in my day.

So, wondering what might be the meaning of Daragon's presence in the company of a self-confessed crook, I watched them. I saw the girl open the little package. I saw her hands tremble as she unfastened the string that tied it. I saw her lips part in a gasp of delight. I saw her turn to my friend of the earlier evening and addressees words that, from her manner, seemed to be appealing. I am quite sure, however, that not one of you, in his most optimistic mood, expected a report so favourable as that which you now have. Our record for 1927 is indeed a remarkable one. Let me touch on the main features:—

(To be continued.)

Wilson Publishing Company



A FROCK OF SMART SIMPLICITY

Unusually smart is the chic, long-waisted frock pictured here. The bodice closes in surprise style and is joined to the two-piece skirt having a handkerchief drapery at the left side. The long loose sleeves may be faced or bound, and the vestee is of contrasting material. No. 1718 is in sizes 16, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust. Size 38 requires 4 yards 36-inch material, and 3/4 yard 11-inch contrasting. Price 20c the pattern.

"A further \$1,500,000 for unforeseen contingencies, raising that fund to \$12,500,000; \$500,000 to provide for possible greater longevity of annuitants, raising that item to \$2,000,000; and \$1,300,000 to increase our reserves on tropical business; besides writing off another \$1,000,000 on our Head Office and other buildings."

"We have distributed \$11,100,000 in profits to our policyholders, and have also set aside \$6,200,000 to cover premiums accrued on policies."

"After providing for all these amounts, we have added \$11,000,000 to our undivided surplus, raising that sum from \$34,000,000 to \$45,000,000. Scale of Profits Increased for Eighth Successive Year."

The announcement, however, that will be received with the greatest enthusiasm is that for the eighth consecutive year we have increased the scale of profit payments to our policyholders. The basis of distribution for 1928 will call for nearly \$300,000 more than would be the basis of last year.

Profits of Policyholders Unexcelled in the world."

"We can already say that in profitableness to our policyholders, we are not excelled by any life company in the world; but we are not satisfied and will not be satisfied until we can

HOW THE SUN LIFE MADE THIRTY-EIGHT MILLIONS PROFIT IN THE YEAR 1927

Participating Policyholders Receive Ninety-Five Per Cent. of Profits Dividends to Policyholders Again Increased Company Seeks Legislation to Maintain Canadian Control

Montreal.—The phenomenal record of the Sun Life Assurance Company is an inspiration to all Canadians. Its income of \$102,000,000 is already to the total revenue of the Government of Canada in the year one year. Not many corporations anywhere can repeat such figures. The President's intimate practical comments at the annual meeting explaining how

of even greater interest. However, were his statements regarding the fact that a great Canadian institution may pass from Canadian control, buying of Sun Life stock, and causing policyholders and shareholders of the Canadians and which has obtained its phenomenal growth under Canadian management. Subsequent events have justified these misgivings, and at the meeting the first public intimation was given that the Sun Life directors are seeking legislation at the present session of Parliament which is intended

to exceed the total for 1926 by one per cent and to Canada by seven per cent. But the new business of the Sun Life of Canada shows an increase of twenty-three per cent. We seek our own place. Our prosperity and popularity, and the enthusiastic support of our six hundred thousand policyholders, make our growth both rapid and certain. The future still before us will, I am convinced be more wonderful than anything we can now imagine. And it is indeed a day thought that all that growth in size and all that growth in prosperity mean increased service to humanity and service at steadily lowering cost to our policyholders."

The President cited his remarks in his reference to the need of safeguarding the future of the Company as above quoted.

The Board of Directors of the Sun Life is composed of the following: T. B. Macaulay, F.R.A., F.A.S., President and Managing Director; Arthur B. Wood, F.I.A., F.A.S., Vice-President and Actuary; Robert Adams, W. M. Hinks, Hon. Reginald Dandridge, Captain Herbert S. Bell, Abner Kingman, J. V. McConnell, U. E. Nell, Carl Horson, John W. Ross, His Honour James C. Tory, Hon. Lorne C. Webster. Three new directors were added at the meeting—Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Messrs. H. McMaster and C. B. McNaught.

Kootenay Park Mapped

A map sheet of one of the latest additions to Canada's national parks, Kootenay Park in southeastern British Columbia, has just been issued by the Geological Survey Department of the Interior. The park has an espeical appeal to the motor tourist on account of the perfection of the automobile highway which traverses it. Although the Bulk-Windermere Highway passes through some of the most rugged country in the continent, there is nothing to prevent the driver of the average car from going over the entire road "on high" without once changing gears. This is possible, even although the road has a great many curves and grades. It has an extreme variation in altitude of about 2600 feet from Vermillion summit to Columbia valley—for the road has been engineered throughout curves and the surface has been kept with easy grades and super-elevated up to a high standard of excellence. A number of the mountains in this park over 10,000 feet high have never been climbed. These, with the maroon color found only in high mountain peaks, afford plenty of attractions for climbers and nature lovers.

The park is full of game and besides the more ordinary kinds of mountain fauna, possesses large numbers of moose. From the highway these beautiful animals may often be seen on the high plateaus of Vermillion and Kootenay ridges.

Copies of the map sheet may be had for the nominal fee of fifteen cents upon application to the Geological Survey Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or by writing to the Director of Canadian National Parks, of the same department.

A Proud Mother

Gold Emblem Awarded to

Mrs. Lindbergh for Her

"Modesty and Ability as a Teacher"

Washington—On characteristics of modesty and ability and outstanding work in the teaching profession—Mrs. Elizabeth Lindbergh will receive the award of a gold emblem and life members from the National Education Association at the convention in Boston March 1.

Secretary J. W. Crabb of the association, who signed the certificate, said:

"It is a source of distinct pride to us that the young people of the nation have so similarly honored the son of a father-worker."

The testimonial to Mrs. Lindbergh, representing the high regard in which she is held by more than one hundred and eighty thousand teachers in all parts of the country, is to be presented while her son, Colonel Lindbergh, looks on, just as she has done.

From the highway these animals may often be seen on the high plateaus of Vermillion and Kootenay ridges.

Copies of the map sheet may be had for the nominal fee of fifteen cents upon application to the Geological Survey Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or by writing to the Director of Canadian National Parks, of the same department.

A Garden All My Own

It is so thin that you can't walk on it without getting your feet wet.

It is a garden all my own, built in a hedge.

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