Murder at Bridge

By ANNE AUSTIN.

CHAPTER XII

Flora Miles seemed to be dazed by Dundee's vehement question. "Why, yes-Nita's own tune. That's what she called it-her own

"Dead?" Flora repeated, more cewildered. "Of course she was, or at
least, they ail said so— Oh, I know
what you mean! And you don't mean
what I mean at all—"

"Steady, honey-girl!" Tracey Mies
urged, putting his rrm about his wife.
When I man a south wife, so far as Mrs.
Selim was concerned?" Dundee asked

urged, putting his erm about his wife.
"I'd better tell you, Dundee. When
we came running into the room, there was Nita's powder box playing its tune over and over-

"Oh!" Dunde wiped ais forehead. "You mean it's a musical box?" "Yes, and plays when the lid is off,"

Tracey answered, obviously delighted to have the limelight again. "Well, of course, since Nita couldn't put the lid back on, it as still playing. . . . What was the tune, noney?" he asked his wife tenderly. "I haven't much his wife tenderly. "I haven't much ear for music at best, but at a time

"It was playing 'Juanita,'" Flora answered wearily. "Over and over —'Nita, Jua-a-n-ita, be my own fair bride,'" she quavered obligingly. "Only not the words, of course, just the tune. That's why Nita cought the box, I suppose, because it played her namesake song—"
"Maybe one of her beaus gave it

to her," Tracey suggested lightly, glassy, patting his wife's trembling shoulder. "Anyway, Dundee, the thing ran on and on, until it ran down, I suppose. I confess I wanted to put the lid back on, to stop the damn thing but Hugo said we mustn't touch any

"And quite right." Dundee cut is Now, Mrs. Miles, about that noise you heard... Did you hear anyone enter the room?.. No?.. Well then, did you hear Nita speak to any one? You said you thought it might be Lydia, coming to get something out of the closet."

"I didn't hear Nita speak a word to anybody, though she might have and I wouldn't have heard, all muffled up in that velvet evening wrap and so far back in the closet-" Did you hear the door onto the

porch-it's quite near the closet-" "The door was open when we came in, Dundee," Tracey interposed. "It must have been open all the time."

"I didn't hear it open," Mrs. Miles confirmed him wearily. "I tell you I didn't hear anything, except Nita's coming in singing, then the powder lox playing its tune, and that bang or bump I told you about."

"And just where was that?" Dun-dee persisted.

e persisted.
"I don't know!" she shrilled, hysteria rising in her voice again. told you it sounded fairly near the closet, as if—as if somebody bumped into something. That's what it was like! And I was so frightened of be-

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Mode in Canada

ing found in the closet that I fainte.

Juanita Selina is murdered during a bridge party. Duodee, special investigator, believes she has been shot youe of her guests. Penny Crain, Kai mi Marshall and Carolyn Drake fere playing bridge. Lois Dunlap and frace? I lies were in the dining room. Judge Marshall cause in soon after the beginning of the hand. John brake cause in just before the end of the hand. Dester Sprague and Janet Raymond. Dester Sprague and Janet Raymond cause in together at the end of the hand and went of the hand in the fiber in th letters to Nita Selim? . . . A jealous

"Miles," he began abruptly, " think you'd better tell me how your wife became so jealous of you and Nita Selim that she could get herself into such a false position."

Tracey Miles reddened, but one of

his unburned hands restrained hi "But Mrs. Miles," Duncte processed, ashamed that the hair on his scalp prickled with horror, "do you mean to tell me that Nita was not dead then—when Karen Marshall screamed?"

"Doubt" Flora reveated more be the miles of her dead many the following the f Dead?" Flora repeated, more be- her a little jealous of her old man.

coldly.

The blood flowed through the thin-

ning blond hair. "We-ell, not exact-ly," he admitted frankly. "You see, I did take a shine to Nita, and if I J say so myself, she liked me a lot.
... Oh, nothing serious! Just a little flirtation, like most of our crowd have

"Mrs. Miles," Dundee interrupted with sudden harshness, "are you sure you did not know that that letter was

from Dexter Sprague before you looked for it?"
"Sir, if you are insinuating that my wife carried on a flirtation or an-an-affair with that Sprague in-sect—? Tracey began to bluster.

But Dundee's eyes were on Flora Miles, and he saw that her sallow skin had tightened like grayish silk over her thin cheek bones, and that her eyes looked suddenly dead and

"You fainted, you ay, Mrs. Miles," Dundee went on inexorably. "Was it occause, by any chance, that this note"—and he tapped the sheet which had caused so much trouble-"revealed the fact that Nita Selim and Dexer Sprague were sweethearts or-

It was a battle between those two now. Both ignored Tracey's red-faced age. Flora licked her lips. "No-no,"

he whi: pered. "No! It was because was jealous of Tracey and Nita-"Yes, and I'd given her cause to jealous, too!" Tracey forced himself into the conversation. "One night, at the Country Club, Flora saw me and Nita stroll off the porch and down onto the grounds, and she had a right to be sore at me when I got back, because I'd cut a dance with to Yorkshire.

her-my own wife! . . . And it was only this very morning that I made a point of driving-out of my way, too-to this house to see Nita. Not that I meant any harm, but I was being a little silly about her—and she was about me, too! Not that I'd leave wife and babies for any Broadway

"Oh, Tracey! And you weren't going to tell me." Was here real e: lousy now, or just pretense on

Flora's part?
"You understand, don't you, Dundee?" Tracey demanded, man to man I was just having a little fun on the side-nothing serious, mind you! But f course I didn't tell Flora ever little thing. No man does! There've

been other girls—other women—"
Dundee could stand no more of Miles' complacent acceptance of ni own rakishness. And certainly a girlike Nita Selim would have been able to bear precious little of it.... Con-ceited ass! But Flora Miles was another matter-ind so was Dexter

"You can join me in the living room, if you like," Dundee said shortly, as he wheeled and strode toward the door. Was that quick, passionate kiss between husband and wife being taged for his benefit?

"Pretty near through, boy?" trawn, who had been silent and be-Strawn, who had been silent and be-wildered for a long time, asked anxiously, as the two detectives passed into the hall.

"Not quife. I've got to know sev eral things yet," Dundee answered

But in the living room his mind was wholly upon the business in hand,
"I'll keep you all no longer than is
absolutely necessary," he began, and
again the close-knit group—in which
only Dexter Sprague was an allen grew taut with suspense. "From the playing out of the 'death hand' at bridge," he went on, using the objectrionable phrase rain very deliberately, "I found that no two of you men arrived together... Mr. Hammond, you were the first to arrive, I be-

lieve?"
"It seems that I was!" Clive Ham-

mond answered curtly. "And yet you did not enter the living room to greet your hostess?" "I wanted a private word with Poly Heaven you've solved the problem of Miss Beale-my fiancee," Hammond

explained briefly.
"How and when did you arrive?" "I don't know the exact time. Never I ought of looking at my watch," Hammond offered. "I came out in my own the author of the whole harvest of misroadster. As for how I entered the chief. Demosthenes.

ouse, I leaped upon the porch and a door of the solarium, say Polly just finishing with bridge for the afternoon, and beckoned to her. She joined me in the solarium, and we stayed there until Karen screamed.

"Have you been engaged long, Mr. Hammond—you and Miss Beale?" Dundee asked, as if quite casually. "Nearly a year—if it's any of your tusiness, Dundee!"

"I refuse to answer!" Hammond

damned business! "I believe I can answer my own question, Mr. Hammond," Dundee said very softly.

(To be Continued)

Golden Acres

Most of the mineral wealth of Autralia comes from a small district, the Golden Mile, near Koolgardie, and the way in which it was discovered is one of the romances of mining.

Thirty-nine years ago a London com pany sent an expert, Mr. W. A. Mer cer, to examine a plece of land in Aus tralia. It proved to be valueless, bu when he was on the point of leaving he heard of another plot some mile arily rich. It consisted of eighteen acres, and the price was £5,000. The London company refused to provide the money, so Mr. Mercer formed a small company, which made the pur

The claim consisted of a great mas of rock, and since its purchase it has earned the name of the Treasure House. Soon after a shaft had been almost untold gold. In twenty year £6,500,000 worth of gold had taken from the chaim which the com pany refused to buy for £5,000, and more than £3,000,000 has been paid in dividends to shareholders.

The mine has transformed what wa desert into one of the busiest centres in Australia. There was once from Perth by a pipe-line 370 miles in

A Summer's Morning

The sun is well up now, and the whole quiet spacious dale is stretch-ed before us, gleaming in the fresh morning light. Where we stand is rough moorland, tufts of grass and rock and heather, rich browns and purples, sombre greens, rising and inking in great massive swells, like huge waves of the sea. Black and white lapwings are already saulting beside us, beating the air in a wild ecstasy with their powerful wings, shricking their queer high lonely note as they swerve by. Far below, in the fields, a man-a fellow countryman of mine-with a stick and leggings, moving slowly, directs a sleek slim dog to round up a score of sheep. The sheep bleat, the dog gives quick decisive barks, the mar -in a tone of voice I know so well -occasionally speaks one command ing word. Other sound there is none Curly white clouds roll slowly up and cross the pale blue sky. The curv ing Ure sparkles in the sunshine And the air! Clear, crisp; with that moorland tang in it which strength ens the sinews and lifts up the heart Who could feel mean, or harassed or afraid, on top of Askrigg Common

Browning may be right. If he is and our ghosts must be doomed to haunt one place, let mine be given



"I found a four-leaf clover on my lawn to-day." suppose you think that's

lucky? "I do. I'm lucky to find anything in that lawn except dandelions and weeds."

Small Duties

The duty of doing, not great things but what we can, is the very top and sum of human obligation. One can't get beyond it; one ought not to stop this side of it. It means the doing of everything that you can, and chiefly it means the doing of things that issue out of the heart toward God and man. It means the setting aside of self, and laying out one's best energies in unselfish, not to be requitted, service. In means not merely occupation, indus try, attainment; not merely busy hands, but busy affections, sympathies and purposes. You cannot sum its al most limitless significance. — J. F.

Solved

A convivial bachelor who has to be at work earlier during "summer-time"

bought an alarm clock. At seven o'clock on the first morn ing of its use he was wakened by loud knocking on the street door. When the householder looked out of his bedroom windw he saw a police officer standing with the alarm clock

in his hand. The officer said: "Look here, sir what's the idea of having this thing out here wakening the neighborhood?"
"Officer," said the culprit, "thank why the milk-can is at my bedside."

The sower of the seed is assuredly

Fiddle-Wood

Who shall rereal this mystery thin

Vibrating wood? Of forest voices multi-voiced-Wind, rain, on many leaves, Bent branches moaning under The crash of clouds that meet The cool pale biss of snow? And birds?

"And just when had you seen Miss Reale last, before late this afternoon?" All musics and all seasons Seeping and soaking in,

"That at least is cope of your of the green bud Into the very core Of destined fiddle-wood-

Long long before
The master mind conceives, The master hand achieves The carven whole,
The curving sides, the twisted scroll

Shapes it and stains it to this red

Of expectant string, Names its adolescent voice Fondles it, fingers it, Breasts it!

How light it seems Swinging between the abdicating finger and thumb. How frail this unbarred

Of sweet gold-All fortunes and all raptures and al Kind horn of plenty! And who shall count the glitterin

-Leonora Speyer, in "Fiddlers" .Farewell."

Snapshots

ne or both ears. Out of 39,000 sentences passed

prisoners in 1930, 20,394 of the of enders had been in prison before.

Crabs are a favoite diet of a South

Our first automatic telephone ex change was opened twenty years ago he thousandth has just been opened

Receipts (gross) for the four amal

camated railway companies have falen from £177,000,000 in 1929 Passengers in the new German wenty-four ton plane, claimed to be

the biggest in the world, can and receive telegrams while lu the We are posting more letters every year. In the year 1928-29 the num-ber was 6,230,000.000; in the year

just completed, 1931-32, it was over New York City consumes more nilk-one pint daily per head of the population-than any other city; next ome Hamburg, Copenhagen, Berlin,

One-sixth of the national income r about £500,000,000, is spent on drink and gambling, according to a recent statement by Viscount Snow-

London, and Paris.

Although there is more traffic in the City of London han in any othear caused only sixteen deaths and sixty-seven cases of injury.

Women, according to German University statisticians, are good stud-ents of economics, industrial history, lowering above the magnificent tem and chemistry, but they are beaten

Accordians are superseding saxo phones as the most popular instru ments to such an extent that an ac cordion club has been formed in Lou don. Clubs of his type are already popular abroad.

Great Britain's fastest train, the Cheltenbam Flyer, which does the Paddington in just over fifty-six minutes, uses one hundredweight of coal very three miles. At present it is the world's fastest train.

Germany's oldest steam-engine. just been scrapped in Koenigsborn. was imported from Great Britain 1799 and has worked a pump day and night ever since.

There are still 1.500 men of the sons are still on the pension lists of signs. the Ministry of Pensions.

The Oldest City In the World

Tizhuzazeo, Belivia, the oldest city in the America's and perhaps in the entire world, is situated on the transindean plain, 12,000 feet above the sea—literally on the roof of the world, according to A. Hyatt Verrill in The N.Y. Herald-Tribune. Here, ten miles from Lake Titicace, are the astonishing ruins of a city populous in the days of Moses, old before the fall of Babylon and ancient at the time of

An expedition of the American Mus-cum of Nathral History now at Tiahuanaco—the first in thirty years that has received permission from the Boivian government to excavate at these ancient ruins—has been on the ground for several months. Dispatches have enounced many important discoveries. Among the noteworthy finds reported are a number of stone images reported are a number of stone images in width and three feet in thickness, or idols, one more than twenty feet in flanked by ornately sculptured stone length; quantities of beautiful though monoliths fifteen feet in height, which broken pottery, and sculptured stones serve as newel posts. Yet these huge covered with strange hieroglyphs, or masses of cut stone are puny things covered with strange hieroglyphs., or ymbols.

When the Inca dynasty was founded, fully 1,000 years ago, this most ancient of cities had been a deserted ruin for so long that the Indians had no legends or traditions as to its orig in or its former inhabitants. So the Incas called it Tiahuanaco - The Place of the Dead."

No one can say with certainty when the city was built. But Dr. Rudolph Muller, the eminent German scientist and astronomer, computes its age as About three million people in this country have defective hearing in ciety of Astronomers. De Mallon one or both ears. the city's age as 14,500 years. Unable to credit this almost inconceivable lapse of time, he tried another formula and obtained 10,500 years as the age of Tiahuanaco. Even this would make it the oldest known city on earth, a city antedating by centuries Ur and American fox, specimens of which Ish and the Pyramids. Yet even then, recently arrived in the London Zoo. in that dim and remote era of the in that dim and remote era of the vorld's history, the people who built this great city beyond the Andes' summits were a highly civilized race, possessing an advanced knowledge of astronomy and mathematics, having a written of at least an inscribed lang-that there is less than a millimeter uage, and with engineering and architectural abilities which never have variation in angles or size in a feat een equaled.

Not only is Tiahuanaco the oldest ity-it is also the world's most mysterious city. For no archeologist can hazard a guess as to the identity of the race that built it, why it was deserted, how the people accomplished titanic feats which have no parallel anywhere, whence they came or whither they went or why it should have been built on the lofty plain where its amazing ruins now stand.

rerld; a city absolutely unique. No where on earth is there anything that resembles it in archi*ecture, sculpture or culture. There are no known trace of an earlier culture from which Tia uanaco might have been developed: no signs of a decadence. Judged only by what is known of Tiahuanaco it

planet Imagine a vast city covering more than a square mile, with immense edifices built of blocks of stone weigher similar area, street accidents last ing hundreds of tons each and fastened in place not with cement or mortar, but with his solid silver! with huge staples and bolts of

A cit; with a stone-faced pyramid 200 feet in height and 700 feet square, ples and palaces, with a great stone stairway leading to the summit where

was a huge stone reservoir!

A city with a temple, with a stone paved court 500 feet square, surround paved court sou jeet square, surrounded by hundreds of great stone columns twenty feet in height, with sculptured stone idols twenty to sixty feet in height, and with a titanic stone gateway hewn from a single block of

Perhaps of all the remains of this once great city, this "Gateway of the Sun," as it is called, is the most famed first earthquake or to collapse under and the most striking. Hewn from a mass of hard arsenite rock fifteen feet in length elements through the centuries to follow. mass of hard anomin length, elven feet in height and in length, elven feet in thickness, this marvelous specimen of stone cutting storms or the passage of countless thousands of years.

The largest known example of prein the larges for the sculptures that cover it as i is for its size. Occupying the entire surface of one side above the door way is a facade of 112 symbolic figures surrounding a great central figfighting forces in hospital as the re- ure of the "Condorgod" or so-called sult of injuries, etc., received in the Sun God, all in bas-relief and embel Great War, and nearly 1,200,000 per-lished with intricate ornamental de

To the ordinary visitor the most in-

A Cow Study



Even cows attract the research department these days. Here we see Dr. X. Clausen, St. Paul, Minn., peering through an observation glass installed in the side of Betty Yeastfoam.

iced tea

is delicious

eresting and astonishing feature of the ruins is the gigantic size of the stones used in the construction of the buildings. There are flights of stairs with each step a single squared cut stone twenty feet in length, ten feet compared to the stupendous slabs tha once formed the walls of buildingsslabs larger than any others known in

prehistoric architecture. Bloch weighing sixty to eighty tons each are so numerou, they scarce! attract notice; many weigh more than 200 tons each! And all as accurately and smoothly cut, trued. squared and carved as if sawed and planed by the most modern machinery -though for that matter no modern machine is capable of duplicating the work performed by the unknown ancient inhabitants of Tiahuanaco. More over, many of these stupendous slabs of hard arsenite rock are elaborately sculptured. Everywhere are rical designs cut deeply into the rock or left in bold relief - moldings squares, dectangles, crosses and Greek

Often, too, these are cut far into th stone in a series of concentric steps to a foot or more in depth, the deepes portion being only a few inches square. And in many places there are identical patterns in high relief and evidently designed to fit into the recessed cuttings, thus locking the stones together, and so accurately cut of mortising that few modern artisans could duplicate in wood, to say noth

ing of stone. In other cases the titanic slabs were lesigned to serve as tilting for floors. About the edges of these numerous niches were cut, like seats, deeply into the stone, and intended, no doubt as resting places for idols or statues.

Everywhere along the edges of these

normous stone slabs are numerou T-shaped recesses, frequently with the ross of the T extending through the stone -as a perforation. In many places two or more of these cuts still remain in line so that their purpose is obvious, for, as I have said, the blocks were originally held in place by immense metal staples or keys. quite recently it has always been thought that these keys were of cop by what is known of Tiahuanaco it might well have been created by Aladdri's Jinn and inhabited by giants or been found which are of silver it is din's jinn and inhabited by giants, or safe to assume that all were of the same metal.

This explains why the great struc-

tures, built of blocks of stone which should have endured forever, have fallen apart and are shapeless ruins to-day. Had the stones been fastened in place by means of bronze or coppe staples the Spaniards doubtless have passed them by and the buildings of Tiahaunaco, its paláces and it temples might be standing intact in all their impressive size and marvel ous architectural details to-day. Bu the conquering Dons, coming upon the ancient deserted city by the lake, say in the great silver staples only so much wealth. Each of the silver fas tenings weighd many pounds and there were hundreds—thousands—of avaricious conquerers wrenched and pried them loose, leaving the massive

greater part in the destruction of this

the conquest, when it had been desert-ed for untold centuries—Tiahaunaco must have been a most imposing, a most beautiful and an enormous city. The existing ruins show that it cov with paved streets, long rows of great columns, colossal statues and monu-ments, magnificent temples and palices and its great stone-faced pyramid little remains except in three widely-separated areas — the Kalasa-saya, or Temple of the Sun, with its rows of stone columns and its impres sive, marvelous monolithic gateway and gigantic stairway, the Tunca-Pun ca, or Place of the Ten Doors, where the largest slabs of stone are lying where they fell after the Done has pried the silver staples free; and th Akapana, or Fortress, the great artifi cial hill from which the stone facing to the summit, the great stone reser voir, the stone conduit to the base and the monuments that crowned it were carted away, broken up and used in ballasting the railway.

And of all the hundreds—probably thousands—of gigantic stone statues or idols that once stood about Tiahua naco only one remains, scarred and de faced by bullets, chipped by vandals and curio seekers, but still erect, gaz ing with sphinx-like, enigmatical face could speak what an amazing story he

passed beneath his sightless eyes the mysteries of Tiahuanaco would be explained, the myriad puzzles of the past would be solved. We would then know how the inhabitants of the ancient city performed their amazing feats of every opinion and of every faith stone cutting without—as far as is George Clemenceau.

known- the use of steel tools; feats known— the use of steel tools: leats beyond our present comprehension, for no bronze tool ever found would cut hard rock, and no expert stone worker of to-day will believe for an instant that the accurately and mathematically and perfectly cut Tiahuanaco work was accomplished by the use of stone implements.

Even if the full story of Tiahuanaco is forever sealed behind the stone features of the solitary image much new light will doubtless be thrown upon it when a full report of the museum's expedition is made public. One note-worthy discovery made was the image

of a man with heavily bearded face. Herein, perhaps, lies the key that may eventually solve all the riddles of Tiahuanaco and other ancient civilizations of America, for the bearded figire is doubtless a statue of the Bearded God-the Feathered Serpent of the Aztecs, the Kulkulcan of the Mayas and the Wira Kocha, or Bearded One, the supreme deity of the pre-Incans. This was the legendary bearded white man who, according to tradition, came from the "Land of the Rising Sun," who taught the people their religions, their arts, their sciences and their civilizations, and then vanished after prophesying the downfall of their civilizations and the coming of the

Spaniards.

Who can say how much of this ancient tradition is legend and how much is truth?

However that may be, the Pearded God is as great a mystery as is Tiahu-anaco, the oldest, most puzzling of the ancient civilizations.

Vine Yields More Rubber

A hyerid rubber vine which yields parents has been produced by the United States Department of Agriculture near Miami, Fla. It is a cross between two plants both native to Madagascar one long grown in Florida as an ornamental, and the other naturalized in many places in Mexico and the West Indies.

The planting of Madagascar rubber vines as ornamentals is spreading rapidly in Florida, Arizona and Southern Caiifornia, says a recent bulletin from the department.

The new hybrid rubber vine showed rubber content between 4 and 5 per cent. in monthly periods of analysis. reaching nearly 7 per cent. in some cases. The vines of the parent species

seldom yield more than 3 per cent.

Because the seed of the hybrid does not run true and produce the same type of plant as the hybrid itself, the rubber workers propagate new plants by cutting. The vine is a perennial, and once planted a regular production of rubber might be practicable. Propa-gation methods are being studied to increase the supply of hybrid material, but none is available for distri-

tution at present.

The department is also experimenting with desert plants which grow in Southern Arizona and California and which show prospects for rubber production. The most promising 's a r_tive milkweed that could be grown in large quantities in the desert districts, in the event that a domestic production of rubber became neces sary.

Child in a Garden

(From Pcet:y) O treasure! O joy! The little sacred Boy Upon His Mother's knee No sweeter was than she Who now upon my heart, was than she Artless and speechless Worketh with more than art.

Innocent flesh and frail! The spirit's holy veil! No older than the leaf-First herald of the sheaf-That trims the poplar bough With tremulous light,

Will you grow strong and tall, O spirit infinite. O body small, Here where all things are growing And the spring air is blowing? My heart is in your hand. Grow tall and charm the land.



camping. "You bet I am. I have hired a

bungalow and engaged meals at the "But that isn't camping out." ...
"I know it isn't. I'm going careping-in-comfort."

INTELLIGENCE

in spite of everything, nothing will prevent the slow evolution of intelligence and character. The chosen few will not flinch in their obstinate resolution to know. The sincere will to know is incompatible with fear, as is proved by the martyrs of



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