The Free Press Short Story

FIRING CASSIDY

By RUEL McDANIEL

HE hands of the ancient-olock so did the eighth, and last. had already held friendly comfirst edition of the Morning Caller had structed the managing editor, somewhat long since gone into the mails for eager out-of-town subscribers to scan-over their breakfast tables the following morning, and into the hands of yelling newsboys, whose hoarse cries were now all but absent from the diminishing commotion in the shadowy street below.

The reporters, except the man at the police station, were in the office, some still pounding out "copy," others lounging Jaxily while their associates were getting ready to go home for the night. Over at the copy desk sat Carey Cassidy, over-grown copy boy, assistant janitor, and dreamer extraordinary. His chief duties consisted of carrying the "copy", written by the editors and reporters. from the desk, where it was edited and headlines written for it to the composing room, where the news of the day is put into type: and to bring proofs of material already set in type, to the proofreaders for correction.

bleak, cold walls and barred windows went on his way to cover a scrimmage managing editor's office, answered it, Mr. profits from 1931 export business are inover the telephone and then ide con- The city editor was the next man to "Hello, Dudley speaking. Oh, hello, from, said Mr. Carlisle. Disturbed bus-

doubtful if he was aware that any one managing editor roared. As soon as he telling me. Good-by!" used the telephone. The blare of the paused for breath, however, and permitpolice patrol had set his imaginative ted the city editor to explain that he he again turned to face his errant copy Stock there remained a halance of mind into motion. The boy was a knew not how the story slipped into boy. There still was a face somewhat \$1,060,228.32, representing \$8.24 a share dreamer, yes, a delightful dreamer. His print, that he had never seen it before, distorted from anger, but around the eyes earned on the Common Stock. From dreams made for ambition, and ambition the roar of the voice settled down to a there were distinct signs of a pleasant this amount Common shareholders have for him were not usually idle moments; During the long conference between his lounging was not usually lounging.

ed as midnight drew near, Carey paid in prepared to settle down to their daily for him. What could be a more favor- Total current assets amount more than a hasty glance at the "copy" routine. The city editor, emerging from able impression upon the public, I asked 479,158.11 as compared with current he held in his ink-smeared hands while Dudley's office, face flushed, breathed a him, than to let it be known that the liabilities of \$420,280.08, a ratio of twengoing to and from the composing room, sigh of relief when he quickly scanned He studied the headlines; he studied the the office and saw that all the reporters district attorney. Course it is not offic working capital have been increased by style of writing the Caller demanded, and news men were present. He hur- ially known that Mr. Cone is going to \$915,379.14 and net additions to plant. He noted the frequent corrections the riedly summoned them and with them run for the office, but there was an and equipment during the year amountcopy men made in the stories written proceeded to the managing editor's by the reporters and tried to figure out office.

the reason for the correction.

At length he finished the task of pre- the night before. paring the rough draft of the story that | Searching through the maze of typedemanded every ounce of his concen- written pages, the city editor finally tration. Once he was interrupted by discovered the telltale story in its "copy" the yell "Copy!" from the composing state. There it was, prepared just as paign." room; he dashed there with all available all the other stories were prepared, editcopy as though in a daze, and rushed ed in the usual manner, and the headback to his seat and huddled over the line customarily written. There was but

hopped at the call for "copy," he had made the corrections was different than learned to peck a typewriter, using his that of all other stories. index fingers with some degree of ef- An alert reporter suggested that the ficiency. He told himself that all suc- writing resembled the heavy style of the standard household remedies that of January, A. D. 1932, are required to cessful newspaper executives ought to the copy boy. The others agreed. Dud- should always be on hand in your home send to the undersigned solicitor their know how to use a typewriter, whether ey ordered Cassidy brought in. When medicine chest none is more important full names, addresses and descriptions,

went over to an idle machine and labor- guilt. iously typed all he had written. He read Ordinarily, when Managing Editor use Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil for re- R. S. O. 1927, Chapter 150, notice is it over, cut out a word here, added one Dudley did not longer care for the ser- lieving rheumatic and sciatic pains,

looking at the piece of paper for fully a the job of firing him. In this case he THE GARDEN BEE-HIVE IS A QUEER that told that he secretly admired his be a pleasure to fire him! He would not ability as a writer.

were more proofs. He dropped his paper boy's home to do it! proofs would be handled by another looking for Carey.

Caller, leaving the minor details of run- ened voice evidently had penetrated the Where one is big ogically inclined the certain tasteless unappetizing foods, ning the editorial office to the city office, for Mr. Dudley appeared through drama of life going on within the cub- stomach troubles may in many instances, editor, always went home early in the the opened door looking like a giant of icule is fascinating in the extreme. The be slowly overcome. Nine times in ten, evening, and therefore, came to work some forgotten age to Carey's excited queen, while so designated by name, is however, indigestion, gas, etc., are due before the regular force arrived. He imagination, and relieved the boy of the in fact the best worker of them all. Day to excessive acidity and the premature found several notes on his desk file when ordeal of voluntarily entering the sanc- in and day out she is laying eggs, often the stomach clean and sweet by freeing he reached the office. 'Removing his coat tum. "Hey, there, you, we've been wait- at the rate of 3,000 or more during the it of this extra acid and then sufferers and hat, he sat down to examine the ing for you. Come here!" shouted the twenty-four hours. She lays two kinds, can eat the foods they like best and as yarlous notations on the unusually full the managing editor, waving a rugged of eggs, one that produces the worker much as they want in reason and have file. "Call Walnut, 2005," head the first fist indicative of a desire for quick bee and one that produces the drone or scrap of paper taken from the file. Ap- action. parently not important. He would dig "I-I'm awfully sorry I'm late. 'I-" young larvae hatched from the egg nesia, which can be had at any good immediate attention. "Call Walnut 2005" by the roar of Mr. Dudley." read the second. The third was from "Here, read that!" shouted the manag- and given certain food, become a queen, fermentation and meals digest as natthe foreman of the composing room ing editor. "Fine fix you've put the In reality all worker bees are undeve- urally and painlessly as in the stomach about an editorial which Mr. Dudley had paper in. / If you have to be a budding oped females, and despite, this handicap of a healthy child. Stomach comfort ordered held up the day before. He re- author, kindly do your budding else- the physiologist is amazed to find that means a lot and most folks like good moved the fourth slip: "Telephone Wal- where!" Instead of handing the up the bee colony is the best organized com-

"Miss Knox, get Walnut two-double Omunion at the figure eleven. The five on the phone for me, please," in-

impressed with the repetition of the

number on his file. "Hello, hello . . Yes, this is Dudley, of the Caller . . Mr. What? . . Mr. Cone. yes . . Well, I don't understand that? Mr.

oh. ves ... at 234 West Washington? : Yes, certainly I'll look into the matter. Yes, you've been done an injustice, I'll agree. . Libel? . . No, I wouldn't say that. Mr. Cone: until we've had some opportunity to investigate. Perhaps-"

The receiver at the other end of the wire went up with a snap. In spite of Mr. Dudley's efforts, the infurlated Mr. Cone refused to answer his telephone

the morning paper on his desk. Hastily he scanned down one column and up paper until this morning when I hap whatever business is available." another, turned over page after page, pened to see it. I realized what I'd The report covers fifteen months enduntil over near the back he came to a done. I guess the thing got mixed up ing December 31st, 1931, the new closing eyes looked like flashing points of light. carried it in with the final batch of Carey, too, was lounging, for copy was There the item was, just as Cone had stuff. shooting over the table to him at infre- said. Somebody was going to get a "Really, sir, it is all right. Mr. Cone ing, selling and administrative expenses quent intervals now, and there were few tongue lashing when the reporters and promised to telephone you at two-thirty. was \$1,702,985.82, which was \$152,581.82 proofs now to be read. He must remain the city editor came down! Fire the It's after that now." He glanced at the greater than for the previous fiscal per-

from down the street. The sound grow one o'clock. A few minutes later the and he was furious at first." louder, and in a few seconds the speed- sports reporter hurried in, grabbed some ing connecting link between freedom and scratch paper, greeted the others, and porters, all of whom were still in the 419.94 from 1930 export business. No

arrive; and he was immediately sum- Mr. Cone . . It's all right? Fine . .

A grave conference followed, with The police patrol came back up the little results except that each man satisstreet, and Cassidy dreamed on. As he factorily cleared his name of suspicion. dreamed, he wrote. Bending his long, The city editor called the foreman of angular body over the table, he laborious- the composing room, who joined the ly picked the words which he traced conference bringing, as requested, all on the plece of light brown copy paper. copy that went to the composing room Get out now and go to work!"

one distinguishing mark: the handwrit-During the three years Carey had ing which transcribed the headline and

or two others, wrote a headline with vices of a member of his force, nothing treating sore throats and chests, coughs, long, drawn-out precision, and went back would suit him better than for that burns, scalds, cuts, bruises and sprains. assets of the said John Robertson Ken-As he leaned back in his rickety chair, thereby relieve the managing editor of minute, he smiled to himslf in a manner hoped Cassidy would appear. It would let that long, lanky individual get out A sudden yell from the composing room of his offense that easily. He would brought him out of his reverie. There never forget, if he had to go to the

aimlessly on the copy desk and went on | Cassidy, emerging through the door of the errand. He delivered the proofs to the editorial rooms, relieved the manag- of nature's more fascinating wonders, the proof readers, returned to his desk ing editor of further plans of bringing as C. B. Gooderham, Apiarist of the where he found additional "copy," and the boy to stern justice. Guilt was writ- Dominion Department of Agriculture, took it to the printers. He sauntered ten all over Carey's face. If he had not points out. back through the composing room, chat- been suspected before, there would be ting with first one printer and then an- no doubt of his guilt now. He timidly little box during the summer months other, asking unusual questions and get- asked the telephone operator if Mr. has an adult population of approximting unusual replies. When he reached Dudley was in. The operator informed ately 100,000 individual bees, and it is the editorial office, he was told that all him that he was, by a large majority, rather difficult to realize that between copy having been handed in for the and proceeded to explain in not the 2,000 and 3,000 new begs will emerge night, he might go. The few remaining kindliest of terms that the boss had been from their cells every twenty-four hours;

Mr. Dudley, managing editor of the editor's office. The sound of his fright- four hours.

on down to see what else demanded his Carey tried to apologize but was silenced which produces the worker bee will drug store in either powder or tablet

nut 2005." The fifth read the same; raised paper to Carey, he head the item munity in the world.

himself, emphasizing the more bitter

"In answer to an urgent call from residents in the same block, the police patrol rushed out to 234 West Washington Avenue last night, just before midnight. Neighbors had heard screams of a woman coming from the house at this address, which is the home of Adam Cone, local attorney.

"Upon investigation of police it was learned that Mrs. Cone, fearing an attack upon her husband because members of a criminal gang, one of which Mr. Cone ruthlessly prosecuted in District Court last week, had seen some one moving in the back yard and

had screamed in a fit of temporary "Mr. Cone admitted having received the threatening note, but expressed his belief that the note was the work of a

Mr. Dudley, finishing feading the item, Carey's brain.

do it. Really, it's all right. I-"

with it. All right!"

on duty, though, until the last "story" guilty one. Hanging would be more apclock quickly. "When I saw the story, I lod. Material amounts have been taken knew it was all my fault; so I went right The clanging of a police patrol came The telegraph editor came in about out to see Mr. Cone.. I told him I did it,

The telephone rang. One of the re-Dudley, wanted on the telephone.

All that was spoken over the telephone moned to Mr. Dudley's private office. Be- Good joke? Well, we didn't mean it as money value of the different countries Carey Cassidy did not know. It is hind the closed door the voice of the a joke. You see . . Yes, he was just made it almost impossible to get a true

the two editors, the other reporters, the that although I was merely practicing, plus, making a total surplus of \$7,665,-While activities of the night diminish- news editor, and other attaches came the item was really excellent publicity 562,81. editorial the other day that hinted it, ed to \$283,745.42. and I happened to read that." Dudley winked at the city editor, who

burst out in a laugh. There was no longer that strain registered on the faces of the reporters. 'Well, I ought to fire you, Cassidy; but I suppose a chap mith such diplomacy as that shouldn't be fired. "I'm sorry, sir; but I must hand in

my resignation, effective at once. see. Mr. Cone has just hired me to handle the publicity for his coming cam-

Carey Hilburn Cassidy, publisher the International Star and president the International Editorial Consolidation. laughs heartily every time he tells this experience of his early newspaper career.

Your Home Medicine Chest.—Among they ever were called upon to use it or Carey could not be found, though he than Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil. Its full particulars of their claims, and the should have been to work nearly half an manifold usefulness in relieving pain Finally completing his rough draft; he hour earlier, his tardiness confirmed his and healing sickness is known by many thousands throughout the land. Always ance of Section 51, of the Trustees Act,

When the average person sees a colony of bees tucked away in the corner of some garden it is usually just another reminder that bees and their stings are best avoided. In reality it embraces one

and what is more amazing, between 12,- have a strong tendency to produce ex-The boy removed his cap, hung it on 000 and 13,000 baby bees are being fed cessive stomach acidity and consequent

GOODYEAR SHOWS STRONG POSITION

Report for Fifteen Month Feriod Presented by President Carlisle

> year shows your company in a stronger financial position, not only adding to surplus, but in the cancellation of the enjoy doing so much that you do not study it. One who shows no wisdom in lose heart, and it never occurs to you number of shares outstanding."

cated than they were a year ago," said is a reward in itself without regard to out really knowing what has become of have acquired since, you accept as in-Mr. Carlisle. "International trade is the payment in dollar and cents; then it, is not likely to do any better when evitable and unending. very much disarranged. There is little you have found the work belonging to he has a million to spend. Mr. Carlisle. "International trade. is stability in the currency of many nations, you. laid the paper down and walted for the much pelitical unrest, reduction in natseriousness of the situation to penetrate lonal and individual purchasing power. Prices are too low. Much constructive "I'm very sorry for the mistake. work must yet be done before stability is Honestly, Mr. Dudley, I didn't mean to reached. But we believe Canada to be the soundest nation in the world to-day "All right! Yes, I guess it's fine, Cone with the greatest future, and that should preparing a libel suit against the paper, be encouraging to those who live and nearly every individual connected Canada.

"Owing to disturbed world conditions. "You see, I was practicing writing last it is useless to predict the out-come of night. I left the story on the desk to your company's present year's business Dudley quickly grabbed the copy of carry some proofs. I forgot about it. I but because of its strong position, it never dreamed of its getting into the should be able to secure its full share of

brief news item. He read it hastily. His with the pile of copy on the desk, and I date for the company's fiscal year. The out of the year's profits for the writing down of manufactured goods, raw materials, commitments, bonds, etc.

appraisat of the 1931-export-business.

Mr. Dudley was a changed man when After paying 7% on the Preferred been paid \$6.25 a share, leaving a bal--Carey continued: "Then I told him ance of \$256,290.82 to be added to sur-

underworld was fighting a candidate for ty-five to one. Net current assets or

Makes Breathing Easy. The constriction of the air passages and the struggle for breath, too familiar evidence of asthmatic trouble, cannot daunt Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy. This is the famous remedy which is known far and wide for its complete effectiveness even under very severe conditions. It is no untried, experimental preparation, but one with many years of strong service behind it. Buy it from your nearest

Notice to Creditors

nature of the securities, if any, held by

And this notice being given in pursuhereby given that on and after the Seventh Day of March, 1932, the Exenedy among the parties legally entitled thereto, and they will not be responsible for any claims of which they have not then received notice. Dated this Fourth Day of February,

AMELIA EVELYN KENNEDY. ANGUS ROBERTSON KENNEDY. WILLIAM JAMES RUSSELL,

By H. N. Farmer, Acton, Ontario, their

while insignifiant in appearance this Tells Dyspeptics. What to Eat Strict Diets Often Unnecessary

It is a well known fact that some foods

a nail, and started toward the managing every minute throughout the twenty- indigestion. By-omitting from daily meals those foods that experieince proves no stomach trouble at al'. Thousands of people do this daily by merely taking male. Even stranger in fact is that the after every meal a little Bisurated Magwhen placed under certain conditions form. Bisurated Magneria instantly things to eat. Enjoy them both by making Bisurated Magnesia your daily after-eating protection.

FINDING YOUR WORK

When you have discovered the work you like to do, you have probably found only make as much money as you want, periences which led at length to her that which you can do successfully, You your troubles would be over. A great success, wrote "I had to remake mymust, however, separate the work itself many persons have found that this is self." She spoke of it as simply as Toronto, Feb. 10-"Your company from its possible results. There are but the beginning of their troubles though she had said it was necessary some of you who think you would like Making money is not so ahard as spend- for her to learn book-keeping or stenoancial position in its history, a dominant to be writers, but what you are thinking ing it wisely. Many a rich father is in graphy. She had to make herself over position in the industry and a product of is writing best sellers and receiving a quandary to find out how to use his in order to attain her goal, and she even better than that of the past," de- royalties on a hundred thousand copies. fortune in such a way that it will not simply went ahead and did it. clared C. H. Carlisle, president and In reality, you are bored if you have to be the ruin of his children. The phil- Some of you are taking a very differgeneral manager of The Godyear Tire write a school theme. You will not even anthropist is troubled by the problem ent attitude. You assume you are made and Rubber Company of Canada, Lim- take the trouble to see how a certain of giving away his money so that it will a certain way and that the universe ited, in presenting the directors' report word is spelled, to say nothing of the not harm anybody. at the annual meeting to-day. "Each incessant study and thought which If earning money is a science, spend- are quick-tempered, and you take it for authorship demands.

FAITHFUL JIMMY

Burglar (to belated assistant)-"You are late. I fold you 'arf past one." Young Burglar-"I forgot the number of the 'ouse. I've had to break into every ouse in the street."

FUGUE IN SEVEN SHARPS

Blinks-"I hear you and your neigh- ly replied: bor are on the outs. What happened?" Jinks - "Well, my kids are taking music lessons, and the other day he sent over an ax with a note saying, "Try this on your plano!"

PROGRESS

Assurance in

Force

\$404,000

\$5,010,000

\$19,436,000

\$62,400,000

\$164,572,000

\$536,718,000

\$3,051,077,000

THE ART OF SPENDING-

Most of you feel that if you could

DOPING OUT THE SLOGAN

The teacher had been reading the may do it. story of "All Baba and the Forty Thieves" to her class of small boys. When she reached the end she closed the book regarding the story. "Now, can any one tell me " she said. what Ali Baba said when he wanted to open the entrance to the cave?" One child an ardent film fan prompt-

At least 100 pounds of glass are required to make 3 pounds of eye-glass MADE HERSELF OVER

A successful woman narrating the ex-

ing it is an art, and in order to master granted that your friends must make al-Find what you like, something you that art one needs to begin early to lowances for you. It is easy for you to mind its being hard work. Find what spending a salary of ten dollars a week, that this can be helped. All the handi-"World conditions are more compli- you like doing so well that the doing who lets it slip through his fingers with- caps you were born with and those you

"I had to remake myself." This woman was determined to succeed, and that was impossible unless she made herself over. She did it, just as you

POOR WHITE TRASH

Could we oursels behold As ithers do, perchance We wouldna gie oursels A second glance.

GLEAM IN THE EAST

"Have you noticed any signs of better

"Yes, the people who couldn't pay their bills are starting to promise."

STRENGTH

Assets

\$63,000

\$536,000

\$2,885,000

\$11,773,000

\$43,900,000

\$129,372,000

\$624,804,000

624,804,000

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

STATEMENT FOR 1931

Head Office Building, Montreal

ASSURANCES IN FORCE (net) \$3,051,077,000 NEW ASSURANCES PAID FOR (net) 527,939,000 TOTAL INCOME (net) 197,140,000 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS - -136,509,000 **PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS AND BENEFICIARIES** IN 1931 - - -23,235,000 PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS AND BENEFICIARIES SINCE ORGANIZATION 594,185,000 SURPLUS AND CONTINGENCY RESERVE 21,126,000 TOTAL LIABILITIES 603,678,000 (including paid up Capital Stock)

THE YEAR'S BUSINESS REVIEWED

". . . I think you will agree with me that for a year such as that through which we have just passed the showing is a remarkably fine one. "New assurances of over \$527,000,000, and a total in force exceeding \$3,000,000,000, are

ASSETS, AT DECEMBER 31st, 1931

"The distribution of our new business is interesting. Canada contributed \$101,000,000. United States \$291,000,000, Great Britain \$50,000,000, and the rest of the world \$85,000,000. "Our mortality experience has been even more

figures so great as to need no emphasis.

favourable than that of last year, the claims being but 54.3 per cent, of the expected, against 57.6 per cent: in 1930.

"Since business was commenced in 1871 we have paid out in benefits \$594,000,000. Last year alone our payments were \$93,000,000, an amount exceeding the total assurances written in 1922. We may well rejoice over the magnitude and importance of the social service which the Com-

pany is performing. "During the past year life assurance has been tested as perhaps never before, and it has withstood the trial triumphantly. So far as I am aware, not one life company on the continent has had to close its doors, a wonderful record. In Canada we can claim with pride that even since Confederation not one Dominion licensed company has ever failed.

"It will be noticed that in addition to the surplus of \$16,000,000 over all liabilities and capital stock, we have a contingency reserve of \$4,700,-000 to provide for possible shrinkage in mortgages and other real estate investments. Our reserves have been calculated on the same strong basis as last year. Although our investments payable in American currency greatly exceed our liabilities in that currency, we have treated both as on a par, taking no credit for the premium on American funds. Our liabilities under contracts in other currencies also are included at a total greater than required at the prevailing rates of exchange.

"Our holdings of stocks have been valued on the basis laid down by the Dominion Department of Insurance, which is practically the same as that adopted for all companies by the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners of the

"In new investments we have favoured high grade bonds, the yield on which is now very attractive. Our purchases of Canadian Government bonds during the year amounted to \$23,000,000. "The profits paid or allotted to policyholders amounted to over \$26,000,000, or over 20 per cent. of the total annual premium income.

"In the light of these figures, the report is indeed an excellent one.

"And what of the future? No one believes that the depression will last for ever. It is impossible to say just when the turn will come, but with the vast natural resources of this continent, and the brains, energy, and actual wealth of its people, business recovery is inevitable. When prosperity does return no company will share in its benefits in greater measure than our own." -From the President's Address at the Annual Meeting.

SIXTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA