

The Free Press Short Story

FIRING CASSIDY

By RUEL Mc DANIEL

THE hands of the ancient clock... already had friendly com-

carey, too, was lounging, for copy was shooting over the table to him at inter-

The clanging of a police patrol came from down the street. The sound grew louder, and in a few seconds the speed-

All that was spoken over the telephone Carey Cassidy did not know. It is doubtful if he was aware that any one

He studied the headlines; he scanned the style of writing the Callie demanded. He noted the frequent corrections the copy men made in the stories written

The police patrol came back up the street, and Cassidy dreamed on. As he dreamed, he wrote. Bending his long, angular body over the table, he laboriously

At length he finished the task of comparing the rough draft of the story that demanded every ounce of his concentration.

During the three years Carey had hopped at the call for "copy," he had learned to peel a typewriter, using his

Finally completing his rough draft, he went over to an idle machine and laboriously typed all he had written. He read it over, cut out a word here, added one

As he leaned back in his rickety chair, looking at the piece of paper for fully a minute, he smiled to himself in a manner

A sudden yell from the composing room brought him out of his reverie. There were more proofs. He dropped his paper

He returned to the composing room, chatting with first one printer and then another, asking unusual questions and getting

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GOODYEAR SHOWS STRONG POSITION

Toronto, Feb. 10.—Your company enters this year with the strongest financial position in its history, a dominant position in the industry and a product

"World conditions are more complicated than they were a year ago," said Mr. Carlisle. "International trade is very much disarranged. There is little stability in the currency of many nations."

"I'm very sorry for the mistake. Honestly, Mr. Dudley, I didn't mean to do it. Really, it's all right. I'm all right."

"Really, sir, it is all right. Mr. Carey promised to telephone you at two-thirty. It's after that now." He glanced at the clock quickly.

The telephone rang. One of the reporters, all of whom were still in the managing editor's office, answered it.

"Hello, Dudley speaking. Oh—hello. Mr. Carey. It's all right. Fine. Good joke? Well, we didn't mean it as a joke. You see... Yes, he was just telling me. Good-by!"

Mr. Dudley was a changed man when he again turned to face his errand boy. There still was a face somewhat

"Carey continued: "Then I told him that although I was merely practicing, the item was really excellent publicity for him. What could be a more favorable impression upon the public, I asked

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 with such diplomacy as that shouldn't be fired. Get out now and go to work!'"

"I'm sorry, sir; but I must hand in my resignation, effective at once. You see, Mr. Carey has just hired me to handle the publicity for his coming campaign."

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

Your Home Medicine Chest.—Among the standard household remedies that should always be on hand in your home medicine chest none is more important

Ordinarily when Managing Editor Dudley did not longer care for the services of a member of his force, nothing would suit him better than for that

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 of nature's more fascinating wonders,

While insignificant in appearance this little box during the summer months has an adult population of approximately 100,000 individual bees, and it is rather difficult to realize that between

It is a well known fact that some foods have a strong tendency to produce excessive stomach acidity and consequent indigestion. By omitting from daily

Where one is biologically inclined the drama of life going on within the cubicle is fascinating in the extreme. The queen, while so designated by name, is in fact the best worker of them all. Day

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FINDING YOUR WORK

When you have discovered the work you like to do, you have probably found that which you can do successfully. You must, however, separate the work itself from its possible results.

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THE ART OF SPENDING

Most of you feel that if you could only make as much money as you want, your troubles would be over. A great many persons have found that this is but the beginning of their troubles.

"If earning money is a science, spending it is an art, and in order to master that art, one needs to begin early to study it. One who shows no wisdom in spending a salary of ten dollars a week, who lets it slip through his fingers without really knowing what has become of it, is not likely to do any better when he has a million to spend."

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MADE HERSELF OVER

A successful woman narrating the experiences which led to length to her success, wrote "I had to remake myself." She spoke of it as simply as though she had said it was necessary for her to learn book-keeping or stenography. She had to make herself over in order to attain her goal, and she simply went ahead and did it.

"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 may do it.

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SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA. STATEMENT FOR 1931. 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. SINCE ORGANIZATION 594,185,000. SURPLUS AND CONTINGENCY RESERVE 21,126,000. TOTAL LIABILITIES (including paid up Capital Stock) 603,678,000. ASSETS, AT DECEMBER 31st, 1931 624,804,000. 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 figures so great as to need no emphasis. "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 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 Company 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 United States. "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.