THE MASTER KEY

By John Fleming Wilson

installments of "The Master Key" may now be seen at the leading mov ing picture theaters. By arrangement made with the Universal Film Manufacturing company it is not only possible to read "The Master Key" to this paper, but also afterward to see moving pictures of our story

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CHAPTER III. The Runaway Car.

per the things he cannot ar ticulate. Thomas Gallon dreaming of two women, taciturn and silent as he was, wrote down the thoughts which he could not express in speech. His diary, well thumbed, held the history of many a lonely night, but of all these nights there was one that stood out in his mind.

· It was the darkness inclosing a woman on a bed. He still heard her whispered cry. "You speak of God, Tom. but I have no religion but mother hood." Before his closed eyes came the vision of a lamp lit, then almost an apparition-the face of his daughter. One life had fled, possibly appailed by the horrors of a world that recks not of our poor humanity. Yet there was in the dead woman's arms a child, grotesquely asleep, as if unawakened to the sorrows this mother had known.

"Ruth!" be cried. There was no an swer from the still woman in the dark. ness, but thus he had christened his only child.

It seemed to him as if that echo still feverberated from the moon washed hills which marked the site of "The Master Key."

"I am getting old," he thought as he turned the pages of the diary as if unconsciously counting the years since a woman had leaned over his shoulder. "Ruth!" he murmured again.

The problem before him was no longer dim and vague, as it had been in the days of his prime, but absolutely distinct and clear-what was to become of Ruth when he died? With his trained business intelligence he set himself to solve this question.

He reviewed in his mind all the men and women he had known. It was a strange procession. They marched before his sharpened vision, old partners, fresh young girls, mature women, men with check books in their hands, men dying of thirst on the desert-and Wilkerson. He sternly put out of his mind the thought of his former partner-the man-was be dead? If he had not died that night in the guich, if he were still alive, knowing the secret of "The Master Key." who would save Ruth from his vengeance?

Then there rose before his mind the straight, strong, almost austere figure of his mining engineer, John Dorryouthful, of course, but he had proved himself wholly competent in almost every task that had been given him.

The old man thought more deeply He recalled his own former years. He himself had broken down the iron bar riers of a cold world for the sake of a woman whose image Ruth was. He had seen in John Dorr's eyes the grow ing flame of love. Long experience had taught the old man that there is no passion so dependable in this world as love

John Dorr loved Ruth It needed no monetary bond to assure his fidelity to her interests, and with the sudden swift, alert step of a man who had made his final decision he went out on the porch and called, "John, John,"

Within the interior of the little house down the hill the engineer of Thomas Gallon's mine had abandoued his blue prints to study the letters on a little pennant which represented his first victory, a touchdown on the football field within the last ten seconds play. He knew better than any one that his mission to Valle Vista was futile. Using every resource at his command, he could find no paying ore. and yet-there was the pennant, the emblem of victory hard fought and hard won. Should be give up now: He heard a clear, stern call from up the hill-"John, John!"

"I'lf win out yet for Ruth's sake," be said as he answered that imperious

Other ears heard that call, and as John hastened down the hill be saw Ruth's figure by the side of the bunga low, and as if by the opening of a shutter he once more saw the lights of Broadway and a table spread with linen, two people sitting there-his evil geniuses

in this complex and highly organized civilization of ours no man can be as sured that at any moment some other man possibly thousands of miles dis tant is not planning an act whose por tent would never occur to him

At a table in a New York restaurant a man and, woman were sitting with the words "Gallon," "Dorr" and "Wil

kerson" on their lips. "Harry Wilkerson has found Tom Gation," she said quietly. "I wonder what will happen?"

Her companion laughed. "Gallon? I. had a college mate named 'Dorr,' who said in a different voice: "You called is working for a man named 'Gallon' somewhere out in the mines."

The woman's dark eyes lft up, and she seemed more strikingly handsome as she allowed her sudden passion to to talk to you; I've got something to flood her somber face with color.

"There is money in that mine, George Crane!" she said. ""But this man Dorr street. He saw Ruth coming, swinging - what sort of chap is he? You min-

ing stockbrokers usually have information as to all these engineers." The slender man with the shrewd

face seated opposite her dropped his eyes. "To tell you the truth, Mrs. Darnell, I never liked John Dorr." "Neither does Harry," she put in

The stockbroker looked at his plate moment and then pulled out his memorandum book." "Listen, Jean," he said in a tone she recognized as utterly businesslike. "Shail I buy 'Master Key' stock?"

"There is a girl back there"- she went on intensely.

Crane looked up swiftly. He caught a glint of the jealousy in the woman's eyes. For his own purpose she was most useful, so he snapped the rubber band around his memorandum book, ley. put it back in his pocket and said with finality, "Jean, I'll buy 'Master Key' stock at any price!"

Mastering the cry which had come to him from Thomas Gallon's bunga low and realizing that in it was a tone



"Leave it to me."

he had never beard before, John Dorr strode down the bill. As he crossed the guich he saw the door of the bungalow open, and Ruth appeared.

"I thought I heard your father call." he said awkwardly.

"He was calling you," she answered quietly, "but be went over toward the dump. I think he wants you there." Ruth laid her little hand on John Dorr's brawny arm "John," she said. the swift color rising in her cheeks, "! don't want to say anything to make trouble, but father is worried trusts you; but, you know, we haven't recovered the lost vein."

John looked her straight in the eye Leave it to me."

Her appealing hands crept up his arms, and for one moment she lowed him to read her soul. She made a potent plea, directed by the instinct of a woman who is loved. "John, look after bim. He is doing it for me."

Dorr besitated a moment. It was the first thing Ruth had ever asked He felt that he ought to re spond to this appeal in some most con vincing way, but be could formulate no phrase that would express at once his determination to do everything in his power to help her father-and his gratitude that she had taken him into her confidence, so he merely smiled waved his hand and went down th. hill toward the dump beneath the head end of the spraddling trestle.

She called him back. "I forgot was funchtime," she said shyly. "I must get down to your father." he

said rather brusquely "Then I'll bring you both down your lunches to the mine," she said "We

can have a little picnic all by our selves." As he went up toward the end of the trestle Dorr observed that the engineer

running the donkey engine seemed hardly to know his business. "My dear fellow," he said quietly you're allowing too much slack on your cable. It is dangerous. Those or cars are coming down that trestle too

disaster." "What's the rouble?" said Gallon coming up with a piece of ore in his

fast. If their brakes give way it means

"I was just telling Bill Tubbs that if he did not keep up the slack on his cable on those cars he would whip them over the end of the trestle," said

He turned toward the old man and

me. What is it that you want?" "Look at this, John," said the older man, handing out the piece of ore-"dirt, not gold bearing quartz. I want say to you "

Involuntarily John looked down the the lunch basket in her hand. He re

embered her shy appeal that the Master Key."

"I think we had better go into mine; we can talk there," he said. "They are setting off a blast," Gallon

lunch," said Dorr.

As the old man started into the mine, putting one foot after the other with that carelessness characteristic him came a puff of gray-blue smoke. hearing and make their defense. which soared upward and spread out as if it were the blossom of a cloud warmed into full bloom by the hot sunlight pouring down into the val-

Ruth let fall the lunch basket and stared upward at that dark, murky hole in the hill. Was John there? Was her father there? She knew that that bulky cloud blooming into the heavens meant death beneath ground. Unwittingly she cried "John!" Then she remembered filial duty, and her next word, whispered toward that billowing, eddying mass of vapor was "Father!"

same sacred mysteries. Ruth hastened her pace toward the entrance of the mine. The shale gave way under her little feet, but she struggled upward until she reached the trestle. Having lived all her life paved roadway herein provided for on in a mining camp, there was no terror for her in anything but falling easterly line of Green Bay Rd., someing over the hillside seemed to speak of disnster. She knew the peril of a premature explosion, and she also knew every working of "The Master Key." And again she wondered wheth expenses of such proceeding, the ordiner it was John Dorr or her father or lance for said supplemental special assessboth who were stifling for air within ment being on file in the office of the city that dark tunnel.

the engineer below her, nor did she see assessment of the costs of said improvethe miner who had just left the mine and was scrambling down the ladder. Her thought was that during this noon bour, when both shifts were off duty. took place during the nooning, but ow | court will permit. ing to carelessness it was sometimes the case that all the blasts were not is payable in one installment. All perof that dark hole before furious gusts sons desiring may file objections in said of gas. And yet why was the ore car court before said day, and may appear inside? That, too, spelled disaster.

She dropped the lunch basket and pulled out the pocket electric fight Officer appointed to make said assesswhich she always carried It burned only a tiny hole in the billowing smoke. Dated at Highland Park, Illinois, Decem-She rushed blindly in, trusting to her long familiarity with the tunnel to find

Thus it was that father and daughter passed each other in the darkness; Gallon gringly but silently cursing the awkwardness of his men. Ruth trying to choke out the names of the two men she joved. Suddenly she came into the free air The little beam of her lamp



Ruth Hastened Toward the Entrance of the Mine.

showed her nothing but an ore car and the tools dropped by the last shift when they bad quit for dinner "Father," she cried, peering into the

darkness beyond "John!"

She stepped on into the shadow and called again. Her foot slipped on the rough floor of the tunnel, and as she tried to save herself her lamp fell. A loned man," asks the Cincinnati Enmoment later she saw a trickle of fire running along toward the heading. It was a fuse leading to a blast that had not yet been shot. With all light gone except that blue flicker, penned in as she was by the ore car, standing there with set brakes, what hope had she? How long would it be before that lit tle gust of flame reached the powder?

Continued on Page 7

upplemental Special Assessment Notice Supplemental Special Ass

Notice is hereby given to all persons in- Notice is hereby given to all persons inested that the city council of the City of terested that the city council of the City Highland Park, County of Lake and State Highland Park, County of Lake and State Dorr looked up at the car roaring of Illinois, having ordered that a supple- of Illinois, having ordered that a supplemental special assessment be levied to pay the mental special assessment be levied to pay "Before anything else you ought to fix deficiency of the cost of the work and interest the deficiency of the cost of the work and that trestle. Some day a car will go for the grading, draining, paving with interest for the construction of a sewer in macadam and otherwise improving First Linden Ave., Cedar Ave. and the ravine at St. in the City of Highland Park, Illinois, in lot 6, block 86, City of Highland Park, Dorr, "I guess you're right, John; I've from the northerly line of Elm Place, together with manholes, flushing conneckind of gone at loose ends. Now I'll thence northerly for a distance of sixteen tions and house junctions, which improvesee to it myself with your help, be hundred feet (1600), which improvement ment was provided for by an ordinance cause I have something to say to you." was provided for by an ordinance passed beretofore on the seventh day of "There comes Ruth with a basket of heretofore on the 2nd day of February A. March A. D. 1914, and the lawful expenses D. 1909, and the lawful expenses of such of such proceeding, the ordinance for said "Oh, yes. When I am away from proceeding, the ordinance for said supple- supplemental special assessment being on mental special assessment being on file in file in the office of the city clerk of said city, here in the mine. Say, I'm going up the office of the city clerk of said city, and and having applied to the county court of with Tubbs. He is all right, but he having applied to the county court of Lake County for an assessment of the costs has got careless. Tell him to keep up County for an assessment of the costs of of said improvement, according to benefits, the slack of his cable. I tell you, said improvement, according to benefits, and a supplemental special assessment there-John, I have wanted to talk to you and a supplemental special assessment there- of having been made and returned to said for a long time, but first I'm going to of having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be had look after that cable, because I can court, the final hearing thereon will be had on the 18th day of December A. D. 1914 see you are right and we might have on the 18th day of December A. D. 1914 or or as soon thereafter as the business of the as soon thereafter as the business of the court will permit. court will permit.

of men becoming decrepit, a man ran payable in one installment. All persons desiring may file objections in said court out of the mouth of the mine waving desiring may file objections in said court before said day, and may appear on the his arms. Almost instantly following before said day, and may appear on the hearing and make their defense.

JAMES C. BOYLAN. Officer appointed to make said assessment, Dated at Highland Park, Illinois, December 3rd, A. D. 1914. 40 41

Notice

Supplemental Special Assessment Notice No. 184

Notice is hereby given to all persons HIGHLAND PARK STATE BANK interested that the city council of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake located at Highland Park, State of Illinois, before the commencement of business on the 25th day supplemental special assessment be Public Accounts of the State of levied to pay the deficiency of the cost of Thus do maidens confess to God the the work and interest for the grading. secrets of their heart, but let us see draining, paving with macadam and how they conceal from men these otherwise improving of Waukegan Ave. from the northerly line of Moreine Bd. thence northerly to the northwesterly limits of the City of Highland Park and Bloom St. from the westerly line of the Waukegan Ave, thence westerly to the rock. That effusion of smoke float- times known as First St., which improvement was provided for by an ordinsoce passed here:ofore on the twenty-first day of June A. D., 1910, and the lawful clerk of said city, and having applied to She did not see John Dorr talking to the county court of Lake County for an ment, according to benefits, and a supplemental special assessment thereof having been made and returned to said court her father had gone in and accidentally the final hearing thereon will be had on CAPITAL STOCK PAID'IN set off a blast. What blasting was the 18th day of December A. D. 1914 or done in "The Master Key" usually as soon thereaf er as the business of the

Said supplemental special assessment on the hearing and make their defense. JAMES C. BUYLAN.

Equality of Sex. There is a little girl in Springfield.

Mass., who, like many of her sex, resents the imputation that the femiline mind is not so strong as the masculine. One day her mother remarked on the appairent lack of intelligence in a ben. "You can't teach a hen anything,"

she said. They have done more harm to the garden than a drove of cattle would. You can teach a cat, a dog or pig something, but a hen-never! "H'm!" exclaimed the child indig-

nantly. "I think they know just as much as the roosters."-Youth's Com-

Mystery of the Stomach. "Why does not the stomach digest self?" is a question often asked. The Journal of the American Medical Association confesses that the reason has not yet been found. There are man theories, but not one of them is entirely satisfactory, and we are still unable to say more than Hunter said mor than a century ago, "that these living cells remain intact under such circum

stances 'because they are alive.' "-New York World. Honesty the Best Policy. Doubtless the sorest man in the United States today is the fellow who dropped his purse, containing \$90. while he was robbing a chicken coop. and who is afraid to claim his property. Verily, honesty is the best polfey.-Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Something Learned. Farmer Clapole-Has that city fellet who bought Stone's farm learned anythin' vit? Farmer Sands-Wall, he's larnt it don't do no good ter try ter make apple butter in a churn.-Judge

A Missing Men. "What has become of the old fashquirer, "who used to wear a yard of crape on his bat?" Perhaps he's married again.-Toledo Blade.

Both Bad. "Is there anything worse than owing noney you can't pay?" "Yes; being owed money you can't collect."-Boston Transcript.

Said supplemental special assessment Said supplemental special assessment is payable in one installment. All persons

JAMES C. BOYLAN Officer appointed to make said assessment. Dated at Highland Park, Illinois, Dec. 3rd, A. D. 1914.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION)

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

and State of Illinois, having ordered that of November 1914, as made to the Auditor of

rubiic Accounts of the State	of Illinois	PHIPPHIPPHIP
to law.	or reminde	pursuant
LOANS: RESOURCE	ES	
Loans on real estate	128,407.79	
Loans on collateral security	86 255 00	
Other Loans and discounts	91 735 55	206 206 24
OVERDRAFTS	24,7 90.00	393.45
INVESTMENTS		330.43
State county and municipal		
bonds	67 707 46	
Public service corporation	1	
Other bonds and securities	123,980.50	223,770.46
MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES	06,002.00	660,170,90
Banking House	20 000 00	
Real Estate other than	30,000.00	
banking house	671.64	
DUE FROM BANKS	8/4.04	30,874.64
State.	72,059.88	
National	25,341.78	07 401 66
CASH ON HAND	20,341.10	97,401.66
Currency	12,734.00	
Gold coin	210.00	1
Silver coin	2,304.26	. 1
Minor coin	116.39	15,364,65
OTHER CASH RESOURCES	110.00	19,309,00
Checks and other cash items	1.040.00	100000
Total resources		
	21	575,244.13

LIABILITIES \$ 60,000.00 12,000.00 25,263,96 Less current interest, expenses and taxes paid 14,411,02 Savings, subject to notice Demand subject to check 356,275.40 Demand certificates 11,248,20 Certified checks 1,032.82 585,524.51 MISCELLANEOUS LIABILITIES Reserved for taxes and int. 4,061.54 Contingent Fund

Other liabilities, Building 802.14 6,866.48 I. Charles F. Grant, Cashier of the Highland Park State Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my kow ledge and belief.

CHARLES F. GRANT TATE OF ILLNOIS, County of Lake (88

day of December 1914. MARY DOOLEY. Notary Public

> OFFICIAL PUBLICATION REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

NORTH SHORE TRUST COMPANY

Located at Highland Park, State of Illinois, before November, 1914, as made to the Auditor of Public Accounts of the State of Illinois, pursuant

RESOURCES

y	1 2 minutes and a second deposition of	\$109,530.00	
le	and the same of th	28.400.00 2.130.59	
-7		2,130.0	140,060,59
Ŕ	MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES		***************************************
	Furniture and Fixtures	2,343.82	
	Other Resources	190.00	\$2,533.82
	DUE FROM BANKS		
-	State	13,220,22	13,220,22
	CASH ON HAND	3	7 3 4 5
-	Currency	1,720.00	7 (2 %)
٠	Silver coin	53,00	
	Minor coin	8.22	\$1,781.22
Ĺ	Total Resources		\$157,595.85
	LIABILITIE	es	*****
	Capital Stock Paid in	17	100,000.00
	Surplus Fund	2 18	20,000.00
1	Undivided Profits	25,941.24	
-	Less current interest, ex-		- 1
1	penses and taxes paid Deposits	138,31	15,802.93
-	Time certificates	\$8,163.53	1 64
1	Incomplete Loans	12,877.72	21,041.25
	DUE TO BANKS, including	4	1
1	State	372.50	372.50
1	MISCELLANBOUS LIABILITIES		
1	Reserved for taxes and interest Total Liabilities		379.17 157,595,85

I, Arthur W. Vercoe, President of the North Shore | Hours 9 to 12 Trust Company Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. ARTHUR W. VERCOE.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, County of Lake Subscribed and sworn day of November 1914. ELLEN J. GRUNDY, Theatre

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