

MASTERS OF The Parachute Mail

by PETER BENEDICT

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HEARD BEHIND CURTAINS

More footsteps outside, more people coming in; Lady Cowie still talking music as if nothing but music existed; a man's voice answering her, a rushing voice whose origin was not English, though its English was perfect. Jean-Pierre, probably. Two more people, whom he could not see, and had so far been given no opportunity to hear. Minor executives who were there to listen to orders, not to help shape them.

He wished he dared part the curtains but they were stiff, and would have rustled at the first touch; indeed, he had hard work to keep his sleeve from touching them and betraying him. The company were taking seats; the door was closed. The master-mind — and there was no question who of all these people was master — began to outline the reason of the gathering. Music, for the time being, was forgotten.

"You'll all have seen the papers, no doubt," she said, in her shrill, hard voice, "and therefore there's no need to tell you what they're claiming. Now I may as well say at once that I don't believe a word of it; for this reason, that if the mule-headed police had one scrap of information they claim for them, the last thing they'd do would be to give it to the papers to hand on to us."

"That's simple. What really puzzles me is the true reason for the revelation."

"Now it would be folly to believe what they say, and let ourselves be unduly influenced by the supposed danger. On the other hand, it would be greater folly still to take no notice of it at all, and carry on our plans unaltered. So I want to know at once, and without waste of time . . . you've all been arguing all the evening . . . most ill-advised, when even servants are not altogether congenial idiots, but not more crazy than I should have expected of you at the first slip we made . . . But now I want to know seriously, and taking the wide view, what your opinions are. Well?"

"There's only one thing to be done," said Graham promptly, "and I've been saying so for days. Postpone the run for at least a month . . . close the club . . . what the devil do we care what happens to all the other clubs? They don't belong to us, and they can't offer one shade of evidence against us if their clients give them away. We've taken good care of that."

"If you postpone the run for so much as one week," said the Frenchman addressed as Jean-Pierre, "my people will dump the stuff, collector or no collector, with details attached as usual; and you will see then if there is evidence against you."

"No quarrelling, my children," said the calm Corrie. "Gray has cold feet, and who shall blame him? Jean-Pierre has another group to safeguard, and is doing it to the best of his very considerable ability. Like you, Madame, I see no reason for panic. It is inevitable that a pinch should come sooner or later. One is human, and makes a slip in the end. We made one, and cleared it up satisfactorily, as you remember. We shall do as much for this one. You see, they make no claim to know the exact day. You may argue that is good reason they should know it, but isn't that a point to us? If they know the day, and have some idea of the place — as, in spite of your opinion, Madame, I believe they have, for they're

much more stupid than you credit — then let them watch the place on that day and night, and be perfectly happy. There are other places."

"My own opinion exactly," said Mere Colibri. "Why is it inevitably the women who have the brains, as well as the courage? Well, Jean-Pierre, is that what you want?"

"Parfaitement, Madame."

"And you, Leslie? Are your feet too cold to carry you to another place?"

"Try being in my shoes," said the young man grimly, "and see if yours have much warmth left in them."

"I've safeguarded you for 18 months, and shall go on safeguarding you. You know that. However, if you don't like the hint of danger, Corrie shall go, and one of the boys will drive." The boys made sounds indicative of indifferent approval; they were still invisible, but their nerves seemed admirable. The curtain parted by the merest chink, and allowed Peter a momentary glimpse of the Frenchman, small, dapper, with pointed dark beard, and intensely alive eyes. No. 4, if his calculations were accurate.

"I'll go," said Graham. "I haven't suggested resigning yet."

"I don't advise it. Very well, we agree the run must go through. We want the stuff here, and your people, Monsieur Chacquard, want it away. So far so good; everyone is satisfied. Well, and what place? Location 1 is too near to London; location 2 is already negated as coming in the suspect region of some clumsy fools who tried their own hands at our profession; locations 3 is open to us; 4, of course, is out; the rest — I see no objection to any of them. This is a question which is of no interest to Jean-Pierre or his principals. They don't care where they land it. The choice is ours. Well, what have you to say?"

A ROOM OF SECRETS

They had much to say; even the boys had their theories, it seemed, and all were different, and all had objections to the rest. Only Monsieur Chacquard held his peace, and smoked peacefully at a cigarette, and listened to their chorus with patient interest.

"All very well," said Mere Colibri at last, her strident voice striking theirs into silence at once, "but you seem to have missed, all of you, the one place which has an immeasurable advantage over the others. All of them, except this one, have the drawback that they may be known and expected. I say may! I'm no great believer in the omniscience of the police, but I have brought you where I have brought you by taking no chances, and I'll take none now. There is just one place where no one will dream of our daring to strike; and that is Abbott's Ferry moor — the old arena."

A silence greeted this announcement, and after the silence a storm of protest, which she over-rode as easily as if she had threatened them with guns.

"For this reason; we have already, and recently, had such a narrow escape there that the logical thing will be for us to avoid it like the plague from this time forth. The police have logical minds, as well as we. They cannot be expected to miss this simple implication. So that is the one place on earth where they will not dream of looking for us, now or in the future. And that is the one place where we can operate in safety and at leisure. After what has happened it must be obvious even to you."

"I believe you're right," said Corrie, and turned on her lover. "Gray, it's true! There can be no other place so safe for you."

"It is eminently logical to see and avoid the logical," said the Frenchman, with a smile.

"Very well, I agree."

There were no dissenters. The plan, upon examination, appeared to be agreeable to them all. And Peter, bracing his back solidly against the panelling round the window-frame to ease his cramp, was bound to admit to himself that she had hit upon the one place in which he, for one, would not have dreamed of looking for the new cargo.

"Very well, Monsieur Chacquard, you

will transmit to your firm, by tomorrow's post, of course, the new arrangement. As before, except that location 7 will be used. Possibly they will be surprised, but I take it they won't question your figures?"

"They will accept whatever I include in my code orders, Madame, as if they heard it from your lips. The run will be made punctually at one o'clock; there will be no moon that night. I will go at once and write up my orders, if everyone here is satisfied. My firm has a large shipment of perfumery waiting for this order — all for Sabeel's, of course. The code has always run perfectly — perhaps because of its very simplicity. Seven cases of 'La Minute' instead of five. That is the only correction, I think?"

"That is the only correction," said Mere Colibri.

"Then, if you will now excuse me —"

"I will come down with you," said Corrie. "Mere has letters to write, and is irritable when she writes them. What matters is that the thing is settled."

The door was opened, and there were words of casual leave-taking. Peter could not see who went out, or how many remained, but there was silence. Then the old woman's voice demanded challengingly:

"Well, are you still not satisfied? If you are afraid, say so, and go. You are not indispensable."

"I'm satisfied for myself, yes." It was still Graham who talked with her, and by the quiet which surrounded them they were alone. It was harder to be convincingly still now that the little room was so silent between the voices. "I am not afraid, and never have been. You are very sarcastic about the temperature of my feet; well, it's easy enough for you. You're old. What does it matter to you if you do die in gaol? I rather think you'd enjoy it as a new sensation. But Corrie's still young, and you're not playing fair by her."

"Have you heard her complain?" asked the old woman.

"No, she thrives on uncertainty. But I want more for her than she wants for herself. There'll be no more suggestions like that one about her doing my collection — or else!"

"It's one sure way of keeping you to heel," said Lady Cowie complacently. "Don't worry. If all goes wrong, Corrie is still well provided for. Come down and amuse her while I go on with my arrangements. It's no part of my plans that she shall pay for my adventures." And now they, too, were making for the door, and Peter's heart was leaping with excitement for the chance to escape with his limitless information. But it leaped too soon; for they were barely through the door when the old woman ordered peremptorily:

"Lock it! There is nothing of value, but I always keep it locked. My head is not so good as it used to be, but what I find locked, I lock again. And if ever I have papers to hide — which is not often — they are in this room."

And the door closed behind them, and Peter in his elyric heard the key turn.

(To be Continued)

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(To be Continued)

THEIR MAJESTIES VISIT TRAINING CENTRES



War means a tremendous increase to the burdens and responsibilities resting on the King and Queen, but one of the tasks they perform most cheerfully is the constant round of inspection visits to defence units and troops in training. Here they are shown chatting with officers during a visit to formations in training at a camp in southern England.



(by James W. Barton, M.D.)

That Body of Yours

Some Facts and Fallacies About Cancer

Years ago a professor of surgery told class, of which I was a member, that the more he saw of cancer the more he believed it was due to some germ or organism. The professor of medicine and also the professor of pathology (diseased condition of the body) were telling us about the same time that cancer was due to the fact that some tissues of the body were not developed or had not attained their growth, when the individual was born, and that at the age of 40 or over (usually) something irritated these surface tissues, which made the undeveloped tissues begin to grow to reach their full development as they were forty years behind time. It was the rapid "disorderly" growth of tissue that we call cancer.

Now, although the cause of cancer is still unknown, there has been so much research work done on cancer throughout the world that a number of facts about cancer have been found and a great number of fallacies (mistakes) also.

In an effort to make known to everybody these facts and fallacies, the American Society for the Control of Cancer has issued a leaflet containing many of the findings of research workers on cancer.

Facts about cancer:

Cancer is curable when adequately or properly treated in its early stages.

Cancer is always fatal when left untreated.

Cancer is a disorderly growth of cells within the patient's body; it is a useful purpose.

Cancer is at first just a local growth like any other growth, but it spreads to other organs if not removed or destroyed.

Cancer is stimulated by prolonged irritation — braces, pipe, rough foods or irritating drugs or secretions and discharges of the body.

Cancer is one of the oldest known diseases; it is distributed in the animal kingdom.

The death rate in cancer can be reduced by 30 to 50 per cent if the public and physicians make use of the already known facts.

Cancer is now successfully treated by one or more of the following: surgery, X-rays and radium.

Fallacies about cancer: Cancer is not (a) an incurable disease in its early stages, (b) catching or due to a germ, (c) a blood disease, (d) caused by immoral or unsocial practices, (e) directly transmitted from parent to child, (f) caused (in the first place) by diet aluminium utensils, electrical refrigeration, alcohol, mental work.

Overweight and Underweight

A splendid booklet by Dr. Barton, dealing with the subject of your weight as a factor in good health, is available. Do you weigh too much — too little? Send for this Barton Booklet, enclosing Ten Cents for handling, give

your name and address, and mention The Advance, Timmins, to The Bell Library, 47 West 43rd St., New York City.

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Excess Profits Tax Under Review by Government

(From Globe and Mail)

Rumours that the Government had come to a definite decision with reference to removal of discrimination against new enterprise as expressed in the recently announced excess profits tax schedule, which gained ground on the street on Saturday as the results of efforts directed by George C. Bateman, secretary of Ontario Mining Association, at Ottawa, are premature, according to information received from Mr. Bateman by this department of The Globe and Mail.

It may be said, however, that the Government is desirous of meeting the situation with fairness to new mining enterprise, but finds many difficulties confronting it in arriving at a decision that would be fair to all and at the same time bring in the needed revenue from mines and other prospects able to meet the present scale.

On the other hand, the representatives of the mining industry insist there is no desire on the part of the industry to seek special treatment, its attitude being merely one of desire to preserve activity not only in mining, but in all other types of new enterprise for the broad benefit of the country.

Four types of mining companies were considered. First, those that during the past four years have rapidly expanded production and profits, such as Bralorne, Kirkland Lake Gold and Cariboo Gold Quartz. Second, those facing material expansion in near-by years, such as San Antonio and others. Third, properties that have been in production over a year, but are now materially increasing production, such as Kerr-Addison and East Malartic, and fourth, properties not yet in production, such as Broutlan, Amnor and others, but which may be expected under more favorable financial impetus to swell the national production.

Ways are now being sought by which all various types of properties can be treated fairly and still support the main purpose of raising revenue for war purposes and it is expected that some decision will shortly be arrived at that will give the proper incentive to continued expansion of the mining industry, which has contributed so materially to prosperity in recent years, and the value of which the Government fully appreciates.

Do This If You're NERVOUS

Don't take chances on products you know nothing about or rely on temporary relief when there's need of a good general system tonic like time-proven Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made especially for women from wholesome herbs and roots.

Let Pinkham's Compound help build up more physical resistance and thus aid in calming jangled nerves, lessen distress from female functional disorders and make life worth living.

For over 50 years one woman has told another how to go "smiling thru" with Pinkham's — Thousands of women have written in reporting remarkable benefits — IT MUST BE GOOD!

KEEPS STOVES BLACK AND BRIGHT

ZEBRA LIQUID OR PASTE STOVE POLISH

CHILDREN USE a lot of energy!

And since energy comes from food, the smart thing to do is to feed them things with a high energy content. Timmins Dairy Milk is such a food . . . and it not only supplies energy, but also nourishment and vitamins. Give children a quart a day to drink!

TIMMINS DAIRY

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BOY SCOUTS IN TIMMINS

This is the big week in Boy Scout Circles, getting ready for our annual event, Scout Apple Day which is Saturday next, October 21st.

It is part of every Scout's job to give a hand on this occasion, for we try to accomplish something to help somebody else.

No doubt your Scout Master has given you the necessary instructions regarding the way we intend to work this time, but just in case of a slip up here is an outline of it. Central School is to be the Apple Depot where baskets are to be packed and salesmen sent to their beats. Three Scouts from each troop are required at 9.00 a.m. and as many as possible at 1.00 p.m. So be on the job prepared to do your part to make this the most thorough canvas we have ever made.

Your uniform of course is very much required and make sure that those troop neckerchiefs are neatly pressed and properly put on.

DON'T FORGET the time, the day and the date, I'll be looking for you. Until then, Good Scouting, Arch. Wright.

One-Legged Blackbird Again Visits Leamington

Leamington Post and News:—William West, Marlborough Street east, reported to the Post and News the first of the week that a one-legged blackbird that had been seen in his yard for the past seven years had again put in an appearance last Saturday. Mr. West says the bird was seen several times each season until last year it did not make an appearance. However, after a year's absence, the one-legged bird this year is again frequenting Mr. West's yard and appears to be as active as ever.

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MADE IN CANADA

Says Germany Can't Win This War, but Britain Will!

Russia Using German Need for Its Own Ends, Says Speaker at North Bay.

North Bay, Oct. 18.—"Germany could be defeated in a year or two if real fighting was to take place," declared Wilson Woodside, of Toronto, noted Canadian writer and traveller, who addressed the Women's Canadian Club last week.

"Germany does not want this war, she has done everything to avoid it, and because she does not want it, she can't win it," he said. The war, he added, would be won by blockade, breaking down of Nazi spirit and by military defeat of Germany.

Hitler wanted a little war and prepared for this. He has worked all summer, and now Britain and France are strong, the speaker said. Germany's men are now at the front, they are growing weaker every day while Britain is becoming stronger. The colonies of the British Empire are now sending their contributions to the war and are thus making Britain's forces stronger.

The speaker also stated that Germany's historic opportunity is destroyed. It's Stalin's opportunity and he is making use of it. He is working to dominate the Black Sea and is pushing out his own defences. Mr. Woodside explained that you can't think of Stalin working for Germany nor can you think of Stalin on Britain's side. The Russian is just as distrustful of Germany as on our side. Hitler has entered into the pact with Russia only for one reason, trying to shock Britain and France but the speaker hoped that Britain and France would not call off their agreement with Poland. Germany can't win the war, it can't be won elsewhere but on the Western Front. They have to expect a fight and a real fight it must be. If we have real fighting it can be won in a year or two.

As far as Germany's needs for war materials were concerned, the speaker pointed out they were oil and iron. The Russian surplus of oil is eight per cent and iron one per cent, a small fraction of what Germany needs. Because of the present conditions it would take a year or two for the transportation of these needs to Germany. Germany should have prepared for this before the war began, he stated. Mr. Woodside was greatly concerned with a lasting peace after the war. We must carefully consider the German character and allow the west and south to develop commercially.

Mr. Woodside also talked of his visit to other countries threatened by Germany. He stated that the Poles were what he termed the Irish of Europe. They were imaginative, but charming, while Czechoslovakians were a sober type of people, excellent business men, engineers, democratic, reliable and called the Scotch of Europe. The Bulgarians are a poor class of people but

honest, making the best of what they have and very polite. Another charming race of people were the Swiss. These people are clean, honest, good democratic citizens and were preparing for war, the same as France and Britain were. These countries showed a different change than when he visited them a year or two ago.

RALEIGH UP TO DATE

(From Christian Science Monitor)

As water rushed along the gutters curb-high and five feet wide after a downpour in Minneapolis, a trolley stopped for three young things in high heels marooned on the sidewalk. At last two of them took the leap, going into water over their ankles. The third edged this way and that and looked desperate.

Just then a closed car rolled up in front of her and the driver invitingly opened both his back doors. Daintily the young lady stepped into the car, out again onto the trolley, and Sir Walter Raleigh of the machine age closed his doors and rolled on.

CUTS Right Through CLOGGING DIRT

Just use Gillett's Pure Flake Lye regularly . . . and you'll keep sink drains clean and running freely. It will not harm enamel or plumbing. Banishes unpleasant odors as it cleans. Gillett's Lye makes light work of dozens of hard cleaning tasks . . . saves you hours of drudgery. Keep a tin always on hand!

FREE BOOKLET — The Gillett's Lye Booklet tells how this powerful cleanser clears clogged drains . . . keeps out-houses clean and odorless by destroying the contents of the closet . . . how it performs dozens of tasks. Send for a free copy to Standard Brands Ltd., Fraser Ave. and Liberty Street, Toronto, Ont.



*Never dissolve lye in hot water. The action of the lye itself heats the water.

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150 WATT 30¢
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