# THE AVENGER

by Walter Forder - - -

as much of the story as you care to

land with me. I'll smuggle you out

The younger man's eyes brightened

with a light of hope, then instantly

froze again into dull darkness, for

he glimpsed a slowly moving door re-

flected in the make-up mirror. Si-

lently and fascinated, like one cowed

by continual horror, he waited and

artiste round with a flash, the other

with ashen face held his arms un-

Muffled Explosion

Mysticus, stumbling backwards over

his fallen chair. "Who are-?"

intruders rasped. "We want this

"Silence you!" one of the three

"Want him? Then you can't have

"Scum?" The overcoated man snig-

him. He's my brother, and I speak'

for him now; he's through with

gered. "You gotta tune up your

"Hurry, hurry." The muttered

"Well, it comes to this," said the

ped from the men to his brother:

"Plop!" A pistol spat through the

The victim crumpled and fell with-

"Plop!" again a muffled explosion

as the performer, Mysticus, leapt for-

ward; he twisted and fell; the two

brothers lay silent on the dressing-

admitting the distant blare of an or-

chestra and rumble of applause;

glacing up and down the corridors

he signalled with his head that the

CHAPTER ONE

SHADOWED

Frank Digby peered across the

"I like a spot of rum in my gruel

when I have a cold; but I detest

Hunter's banter was intentional,

"Please, I'm in earnest; I mean

"No, Digby, most emphatically I

"But, Hunter, I've seen one; I've

seen two, but one of them is an ani-

mal. Honestly, I've been in fear of

losing my reason. After last night

I determined to come straight on to

you. You're the sanest man I know."

knowledgment of the compliment

Hunter smiled in whimsical ac-

"Let me feel your pulse," he con-

tinued, jestingly. It was a trick to

grip the wrist of the unnerved man

to communicate his own steady frame

of mind. His cool, firm fingers closed

round the other's wrist and almost in-

The prelude to this had been the

somewhat gusty arrival of the visit-

or, and shortly before nine o'clock

an insistent buzzing of the door bell

had rudely broken the morning pro-

cedure of Mrs. Turie, Hunter's

housekeeper, a lady of prim and pre-

An all night journey in the train

from remote Norfolk had not improv-

ed Digby's appearance, and the old

stantly the agitation quietened.

for he saw that his caller's nerves

breakfast table at Maxton Hunter

"Do you believe in spirits?"

with undisguised anxiety.

admonition came from one of the two

men grimly backing the speaker.

tongue, you painted slouch.'

through with you-

overcoat pocket.

out a cry.

coast was clear.

were jangling.

ghosts-spirits."

do not.'

cise methods.

"What's this-?" blurted out

three men entered.

"Stick 'em up!"

steadily above his head.

as my assistant and baggage man."

PROLOGUE

pheum Theatre descending like a mind. You're coming back to Eng- my word to hear the old creature sweeping cloud, stemmed the tumult of noise from the applauding audience and the fanfaring orchestra. The performer on the stage never moved from the dazzling spot lights, but as he bowed to the plaudits, he decreased marvellously in height.

Wriggling his shoulders and concerting his body with movements like those of an Eastern dancer, he appeared to shrivel and diminish; uncanny and not at all pleasing to watch, yet Mysticus was a great magnet of receipts for the box office. Billed as the 'man who grows before your eyes," he manipulated his body, muscles, and joints, puzzling the medical world and delighting the patrons of variety entertainments.

"Stand by, sir, for a 'call'," shouted the stage manager from his board of electrical signal switches. Upward swept the mighty curtains, permitting the roar of applause and then down again to comparative silence.

Mysticus moved slowly and somewhat wearily from the stage; American vaudeville was much harder than the British idea of it, and he was dead tired. Three shows a day tested his powers of endurance, but strengthened his balance at the bank. "Guy in your room, Mysticus!" called out an attendant, as he scuttled by with a piece of scenery. "Guess he wants to sell cheap jewellery or a set of new band parts."

Voice In The Dark Continuing down the corridor the performer threw open a door and peered around. There was no wait ing visitor; he laughed. "Jim." husky voice startled him, and from a hanging cluster of costumes a small, and furtive figure, emerged blinking

into the light. "Bill-?" The other stared for a second, then gripping the little man's shoulders added softly, so softly, that it was like a caress. "At last!" "Expecting me, Jim?" There was

a pathetic note in the fellow's husky "I've been on this tour for fifteen

weeks and every night I've expected you; it's good to see you. Why did you hide, what sort of stuff do you think brothers are made of?" "I felt I ought to drop out of mo-

ther's life and yours after that spell of the Big House. But seeing your name on the bills gave me a hankering for the old life and home. Jim, I want to break away from this life; racketeering can be pretty low

The performer smiled happily. "And I knew I'd hear you say that, too. Well, what's preventing you, Bill? Turn over a new leaf and start right in with me."

"They won't let me-Razzini and his gang; they're after me now." "Won't let you?"

"Daren't, they fear what I know. But somehow, Jim, I've got to get

Mysticus thrust his brother dewn in a chair. "See now, make yourself easy while I change. Let's have

PAIN ACROSS KIDNEYS! YOU may pro-

taking the advice of a famous physician, which is: "Keep the kidneys in good order. avoid too much meat, salt, alcoho or tea." Drink plenty of pure

water and drive the uric acid out of the system by taking A-nuric in tablet form. It is the discovery of Dr. Pierce of the Invalids Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y. Sold by all druggists. Read what Mrs. W. Horton, 76 Poulette St., Hamilton, Ont., said: "The kidney secretions passed too frequently at times and burned. When I stood on my feet awhile I would get such a pain across my kidneys. My feet and ankles swelled too. Before I had finished using a bottle of Dr. Pierce's A-nuric I felt so much better." Buy now!

lesue No. 17-'38

ualistic encounters," he invited. It's Haunted "To begin at the beginning," said Digby, "you know that on the death

details and reason of his concern.

"Now tell me all about your spirit-

of my uncle, Sir Riley Beech, I inherited his house in Norfolk, 'Owl's Croft.' A pretty gloomy old show, but to me a blessing after ten years wandering overseas. Elizabethan, ivied and all the rest of it; romantic I s'pose you'd call it. One neighbour still pesters me to sell; that's all by the way. And of course the place is haunted."

"Why 'of course'?" interposed Hunter.

"Well, these old mansions generally are, seems to be part of their make-up. It's an awful uncanny old corner, you know, perched on the cliff's edge at Wintersea, which is as much off the map as Iceland. I've also apparently inherited my uncle's old housekeeper, who delights to gloat over all the horrors she can discover; a regular old ghoul." "That's peculiar," suggested Hunt-

"Not when you know her. Mrs. Barlow is a bit of undiluted haunting herself, she simply wallows in the details; you see, she's lived at 'Owl's rumble on you'd think she had a soft place in her heart for the spooks that wander about its corridors and

"They don't frighten her, then?" "Scare her? Not much, why, she's a veritable time-table on what's going to happen." Hunter smiled and nodded as his

friend rattled on.

The door opened slowly and almost "My uncle never really lived there treading upon one another's heels for any length of time, but appears to have kept the place on for the love of it, and Mrs. Barlow and her Almost whispered, the words had husband have been installed all the the effect of turning the music-hall time as caretakers. Occasionally during the shooting season he'd make up a party, but they were mostly friends and roughed it to a certain extent; Mrs. Barlow's cooking can be pretty terrible, I can tell you!

"At any rate, a little over a month ago, I took up residence there. I found neglect and disrepair everywhere, and I had precious little funds to make the place brighter; the estate, together with a few small-holdings, being the extent of my inheritance. Still, I tried what modern furniture and re-decoration would do, had the telephone put in, and tried to make the best of matters. But heavens! What a time I've had -and last night capped it all. Truthfully, Hunter, I've got cold feet and funked, and I've run away. That's what it comes to."

first man, addressing his cowering "You haven't told me why?" prey staring wide-eyed and dry-lip-"It's hard to start explaining such a matter-it's-it's a combination of "we ain't got no room for fellers | Guy Cranston, my uncle-or his spithat do us a get-away and we're rit-and old Shageen."

Among Spiritualists "See here," interposed Hunter, "you're bolting ahead. Do not think that because I amuse myself by daring to be a criminologist and a pri vate investigator (which is a nice way of saying I have a keen nose for probing into other people's business) do not fall into the error, I say, that I am a full-blown detective. Now One of the trio opened the door, what do you mean? Who's Cranston and who's 'Old Shageen?' Take Cranston first, is he material or a

ghost?" "Cranston's a spiritualistic medium. He lives in Wintersea near my place in a little freakish cottage on the cliffs. He's undoubtedly genuine, I mean, he believes in his work; fancies he really can get in touch with departed spirits."

"Well, how does that distress you, Digby? You haven't been indulging in spiritualistic seances, have you?" "Lord no! This chap called on me at Wintersea; said he knew my uncle. and he's been my only acquaintance. If it hadn't been for Guy Cranston I'd have cleared out sooner."

"Then you spoke of your uncle -or 'his spirit.' And 'Old Shageen.' Who on earth is he-or she?" Terror leapt into Digby's eyes as the last name was mentioned, and he faltered, "It's neither, it's a dog."

#### Howlers

(To Be Continued)

Prize Errors Picked From Examination Papers

What is a rhetorical question? It is when a lot of questions are asked and there is no answer to it. For example: What has the Prime Minister been doing all these years? An antidote is a funny story you

have heard before. What is a comma? A comma is something a medium falls into. Ladies should always take tea in their hats when visiting for a short

while. A spa is a place where people drink bath water. The Great Plague was a very serious illness which began with a swell-

lady snorted at the eccentricity of her | ing under the arm and spread all over A cup of coffee and a cigarette The Australians are very fond of had helped to soothe his nerves, and the boomerang, which carries its not until then did Hunter invite the young in a bag outside its stomach.

#### The Season for MAPLE SYRUP

When the early settlers came to this continent, they found the Indians making a delicious sugar from the sap of the maple tree. Very soon they too began using this native sweet and have improved on the quality and methods of production ever since.

A record season for the maple syrup industry was expected when the sap first started to run, but the warm weather in the latter part of March proved a set-back. However, the recent change in weather has started the production again, and the general outlook is much better. Don't count on too liberal supplies, however, get your supply of maple syrup as soon as you can.

Canada, of course, leads in the production of this exclusively North American treat, so it's almost a tradition in many homes in this country to serve it when it first arrives on the market. Pancakes and maple syrup are an old story so we are The tableaux curtains of the Or- tell-or tell me nothing, I don't Croft' for twenty-five years and 'pon which to utilize this delicious "naproduct

Maple Butterscotch Pie

4 tablespoons sugar 2 cup cornstarch ½ teaspoon salt 1 cup maple syrup

11/2 cups milk, scalded 2 egg yolks, slightly beaten

4 tablespoons sugar 1 baked 9-inch pie shell Mix together sugar, cornstarch, and salt. Add syrup gradually, stirring to a smooth paste. Add to scalded milk in top of double boiler, stirring constantly until mixture thickens. Then cook 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Pour a small amount over egg yolks, stirring vigorously. Return to remaining mixture in double boiler and cook 3 minutes longer. Remove from fire, add butter and vanilla, and cool.

4 tablespoons butter

1 teaspoon vanilla

2 egg whites

For meringue, beat egg whites until foamy throughout. Add sugar, 2 tablespoons at a time, beating after each addition, centinue beating until mixture will stand in peaks; turn cooled pie filling into pie shell, Pile meringue lightly on top. Bake in moderate oven (350 deg. F.) 15 minutes, or until delicately browned. Log Cabin Rice Pudding

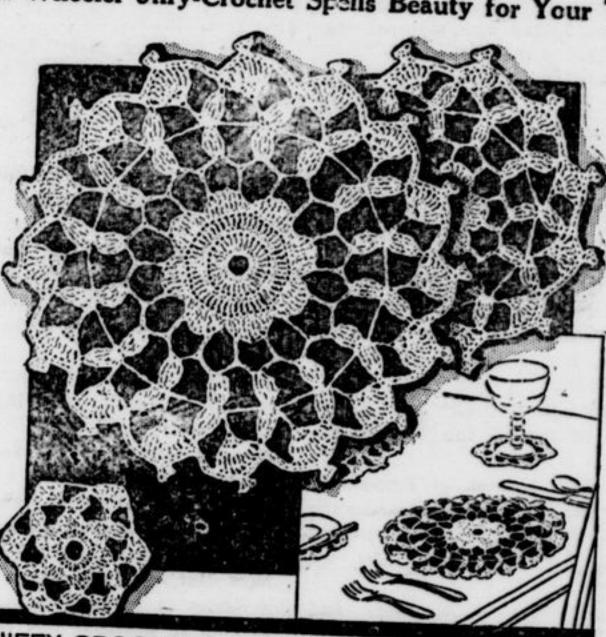
3½ cups milk 1 cup rice teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons butter 1/4 cup maple syrup

Scald 2 cups milk in double boiler. Add rice and salt and steam 45 minutes, stirring occasionally. Heat remaining milk; add to rice and continue steaming 30 minutes, or until rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from boiler heater, add butter and syrup. Serve hot with additional Maple Syrup. Serves 8.

Maple Syrup Sweet Potatoes 6 cooked sweet potatoes

Laura Wheeler Jiffy-Crochet Spells Beauty for Your Table!



JIFFY CROCHETED DOILIES PATTERN 1669

In jiffy-crochet in three handy sizes, these handsome doilies are grand for luncheon sets. Work them in four strands of string, using a large hook. Pattern 1669 contains directions for making a 6, 13 and 18 inch doily; illustrations of them and of stitches; materials required; photograph of a

Send 20 cents in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern to Wilson Needlecraft Dept., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Write plainly Pattern Number, your Name and Address.

#### Cheese Pastries Prove Delicious

A delicious little after-dinner sa vory can be served even by the single-handed hostess. The pastries should be prepared beforehand and studies. put in the oven when the last of the dinner courses is taken from it. Roll it out thinly, sprinkle with Parmesan or other grated cheese with a strong flavor, fold in three and roll out again. Cut in shapes and brush with beaten egg, seasoned with salt and pepper. Serve hot as they come from

### Tears Cost Money

Tears cost a lot of money in Hollywood. In the first place, it takes quite a time to indrce a satisfactory flow, and time is worth dollars in the film

In the second place, complete "remake-up" of an actress is necessary after every "cry". And, thirdly, the emotional strain, actresses claim, leaves them with such a "hang over" that they are unable to work he following day. The film is held up-but wages are paid just the same.

#### Margarine Enjoys Checkered Career

It Has Been Kept Pretty Success. fully Out of Canada Since The War

Cough freely accepted in Great Britain and Continental Europe, margarine has had a chequered ca. reer on this continent and particularly in Canada, says the Financial Post. Its general distribution during the war aroused the fierce hos tility of dairy associations and an excellent opportunity for national or ganization. Selling at half the price of butter, looking and spreading like butter, but less perishable and for certain types of commercial baking actually superior to its rival, Canadian dairymen sensed real competi-

Agitation commenced and various federal governments fearing an adverse farm vote began to capitulate. Margarine producers were restrained from labelling their product anything that savored remotely of butter, There was an attempt to have all margarine colored pink instead of the usual light yellow. Finally distribution was completely prohibited. With the rout of margarine, organized dairymen then concentrated against foreign butters. To a remarkable extent they have been successful in keeping the Canadian market free of importations.

Sell It In Natural White Less successful have been dairy producers in United States, although handicaps to margarine distribution have been growing since 1884. On yellow-colored margarine in the butter state of Wisconsin, for instance federal and state taxes total 25 cents per pound plus a high annual fee for retailers plus a heavy manufacturer's license. To escape these levies most manufacturers sell the product in natural white with a separate packet of coloring material in every carton for the benefit of that great majority of consumers who judge by eye rather than taste.

#### Drive For Fixed Date For Easter

British Enthusiacts Are Aiming to Get Idea Accepted Next

Champions of a fixed date for Easter are planning a big drive to get their idea universally accepted next For 10 years the Communications

and Transit organization of the League of Nations has been custodian of the fixed Easter proposal. And in 1939 Good Friday will fall on April 7-which many theologians

believe to be the "true anniversary" of the crucifixion-and Easter on April 9.

Ten years ago Britain's Parlinment passed an Easter Act fixing April 9 as the correct date for Easter; but Parliament's approval was conditional on universal acceptance. As next year Easter will fall on that date, British champions of the plan think it ought to be brought into force f. then, to avoid calendar dislocation.

Now Has 35 Dates In 1931 the British Government sent notes on the subject to other governments. But two years ago Anthony "den, then Foreign Secretary, told Parliament that Britain wouldn't take independent action because the League organization was handling the question.

Easter now can fall on any of the 35 dates from March 22 to April 25. The first Nicene Council, in 325 A.D. established the date for Easter as the first Sunday after the first full moon after the nernal aquinox-March 21. Sponsors of a fixed date-under

which Easter might come on any day of the week-urge that an April Easter, with better hope for fine weather, would help amusement and resort trades.

#### Rubber "Gas Bags" British Babies

Further Step In Protecting Populace Against Air Raids

A rubber "gas bag" for babies is the Home Office's latest device to make Great Britain's 40,000,000 inhabitants "gas-tight" in the event of

A spokesman said last week that babies two years old and under would be provided with a rubber fabric bag capable of enclosing their bodies en-The ag has a pump for injecting air

through a filter. The pump must be used every 15 minutes. The bag has a pump for injecting air

30,000,000 gas masks which are being manufactured at t' rate of 500,000 a week. They are to be delivered in quantities of 30,000 to municipalities throughout the country.

The masks, however, will not be delivered to the inhabitants unless war becomes imminent. Then, the Home Office has guaranteed every Briton will get a gas mask within eight hours.

New airliners will cut the passen-ger flying time between Lendon and Paris to 75 minutes.



teeth white, breath sweet, by using healthful Wrigley's Gum daily—as millions do. The children also love the delicious refreshing flavor of Wrigley's Double Mint. Take some home today. cs-16

4 tablespoons butter % cup maple syrup Cut sweet potatoes in halves lengthwise and place in greased baking dish. Dot with butter and pour syrup over them. Bake in hot oven (400 deg. F.) 1 hour, basting frequently until potatoes are

Maple Syrup Fried Mush 1/2 cups yellow corn meal

3 teaspoons salt 5 1/2 cups water

½ cup maple syrup Combine corn meal, salt, and 1 cup water in upper part of double boiler, and mix well. Add remaining water and syrup, and cook over direct heat until mixture thickens, stirring constantly. Place over hot water, cover closely, and cook 2 hours longer. Turn into loaf pan which has been wet with cold water. Let stand overnight or until thoroughly cold and firm; turn from pan, slice in 1/2 inch slices, dip in flour, and saute in wellgreased skillet, turning to brown both sides. Serve with butter and additional maple syrup. Serves 6.

## A Thanksgiving

Lord, for the erring thought Not unto evil wrought; Lord, for the wicked will Betrayed and baffled still; For the heart from itself kept; Our Thanksgiving accept!

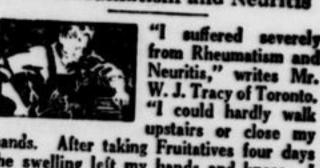
For ignorant hopes that were Broken to our blind prayer; For pain, death, sorrow-sent Unto our chastisement; For all loss of seeming good: Quicken our gratitude. -William Dean Howells,

British railways are using old railway coaches in highway tourist camps.

Burma plans to ship 3,200,000 tons of rice to other countries this year,

# COULD HARDLY

Had Rheumatism and Neuritis



the swelling left my hands and knees. could climb stairs and ladder. I advise any person suffering as I did to take Fruit-atives. They give quick relief." Try this real fruit juice, herb and tonic prescription of a famous Canadian doctor. If you suffer, they might clear up your case too. 25c. and 50c. No substitute. At druggists.

FRUIT-A-TIVES LIVER TABLETS





RECEIVING VISION FOR SER Golden Text: - This is my ! Son: hear ye him. Mark 9 Time-Autumn, A.D. 29.

with the Lord at the raising of daughter of Jairus (Mark 5: 37 animously regards as most Mount Hermon

The Transfiguration

clean linen clothes

4. And there appeared unto 4 chariot of fire to heaven. Moses jah was representative of the prop

A Mistake

6. For he knew not what to answ spirits of the just made perfect col

shadowing them; and there came vade the cross, to leave his natio and to go to the Gentiles (John 1) 18). The full text of the Father's wi less (combining the three Gospel a