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The Wade Kidnap Case

By Leslie Cargill

A heavy curtain was pulled aside, and they stepped into a dimly-lighted apartment, barely furnished, but with a massive central table, round with three hooded individuals were sitting.

"Excuse the bizarre scene," one of them remarked pleasantly. "It is not for dramatic effect. The gentleman who brought you here is too well known to need disguising, and another of us might be remembered as having driven you some distance today."

Broome nodded absently. "Are you the chief?" he inquired.

"That is what my colleagues call me for the sake of convenience."

"Good! Then all that remains is for me to hand over this money and claim the unnamed person of Sir Timothy Wade."

"Precisely, Mr. Broome!—precisely! Checking this very unwieldy pile of notes will take them. Rooms have been prepared for you, so you must accept our hospitality for the night."

"Where is—?"

"Sir Timothy? His room is close to yours."

"Couldn't I see my uncle, please?" Fellicite pleaded.

The chief bowed. "That is something I can hardly refuse in view of your very natural anxiety. The gentleman who escorted you on the latter stages of your journey will show you the way."

"Me chief?"

"Kindly take Miss Delbos to our other guest."

"Yes, that's all very well, but what I'd like to know is, where is my uncle? He went to the still unopened package. As he hesitated the man known as 'The Chief' rose to his feet. Despite his fantastic hood which completely hid his features the commanding habit was not to be missed.

"No unfair advantage will be taken of your presence," he snapped. "Do you wish to question my authority?"

"No, chief, no!"

Fellicite turned to follow him. "I shall be quite all right," he said quietly. "No need for you to look so worried, Bill."

"Hadn't I better come with you?"

"No, I do not think it would be allowed."

"The young lady is correct," the leader of the gang said incisively. "Each in regard to her personal safety and your remaining behind."

Broome reluctantly watched her depart with the unhooded member of the party. He sensed rather than heard that the door behind him had been locked. There was no obvious means of escape even if he had any intention of trying. Fascinated, he watched the thief work. The Treasury notes poured on the table and the laborious task of counting commenced.

"They are, at least, genuine," the leader commented. "I am glad that you did not resort to any stupid subterfuge in the way of spurious issues or faked bundles. Had you done so I am afraid your stay would not have been so pleasant as we will now try to make it."

All three were still at it when Fellicite's attendant returned, announcing that she had decided to go to bed. Broome was concerned at first, but decided from the man's manner that he was speaking the truth.

He was granted almost immediate permission to follow suit so, once again, the erstwhile chauffeur was forced away from the money he had been eyeing greedily.

The door of Fellicite's bedroom was locked and the attendant refused to open it, although she showed an exchange of good-nights, which were made as cheerfully as possible in the circumstances.

Broome's room was of fair size with a double bed on which pyjamas had been thoughtfully laid out. Tired as he was he did not slip into them as he had at first intended. Probably the kidnappers planned to slit his throat during the night, having previously shared out the loot. This would be the simplest arrangement, leaving the unwilling victim to die in the interval to ensure the gangsters an unhindered getaway.

He wished he had been able to see Sir Timothy, but concluded that Fellicite's apparent lack of concern signified he was all right.

Frowning about the room he schemed desperately on escape. Suppose he made a rope of the bed clothes in the approved manner and climbed out of the window? Yes, that wouldn't be at all difficult. What then? Seek out the nearest police station, raise the alarm and return for Fellicite and her uncle. Would it help? Only if he felt the kidnappers weren't to be relied upon to keep their side of the bargain.

That was the difficulty. Every indication pointed to them doing so. Their behaviour had been beyond reproach. Almost too courteous. A further example came shortly afterwards in the form of a tray of sandwiches with whisky and acid.

"I've made it warm milk for the young lady," the bearer of the refreshments said. "She's not got into bed either. You might just as well."

Broome was amazed just as well. Sibility of his getting out of the house did not seem to have occurred to them. Either they were exceedingly sure of themselves or else they were more or less amateurs at the game. There was a third and more dreadful possibility. This occurred to him after he had finished the food and drink. But he felt none the worse for it; quite the contrary.

Things started to hum as soon as the morning came. The Scotland Yard's authority was invoked. Police cars converged on Branston and Broome was wedged in between half a dozen keenly anticipatory officers in the van of the rescue party.

(To be Continued)

Use of Words As Weapons

PROPAGANDA DISCUSSED IN LECTURE BEFORE MARITIME WOMEN'S CLUB

The way in which words are being used effectively as weapons in this war was discussed by the Rev. Angus deMille Cameron in an address to the Maritime Women's Club last night in the Prince of Wales saloon of the Windsor Hotel.

The Axis propaganda which is flooding the world, he said, is a subtle manipulation of words to influence people towards a determined end. The lecturer, whose subject was "Words and Weapons," analyzed the methods and possibilities of propaganda, through the tendency of the human mind to condition itself to an unthinking response to words in themselves, without stopping to consider their significance.

Every group in society uses propaganda in one form or another, Mr. Cameron said. Labor and capital fling words at each other, arousing an emotional rather than a mental reaction. Politicians labor their opponents with words, and the partisan temperature rises at the sound of a party name. The advertiser promotes sales by the repeated use of words. The propagandist plays on human prejudice and the knowledge that people react favorably to some words and unfavorably to others, the response in either case being automatic and unthinking. Propaganda appeals to the emotions, but it is a fixed quality of emotion.

In all ages, the lecturer said, the power of words and their effect on society and human behavior has been recognized, but today there is a new interest among students because of the improved means of communication. Apart from the historical interest in derivation and associations of words, they are being studied in terms of human

reaction and as signs of thought. The lecturer dealt with three types of words: the concrete, referring to definite, visible objects; abstractions, such as truth, justice, freedom, which may mean different things to different people; and words used as tags attached to individuals or groups. Many of the battles between group and group, individual and individual, were battles of words, often unrelated to what goes on in human experience. The problem in human communication was the understanding of the essential meaning of words. The answer to propaganda was not suppression but a process of enlightenment and analysis of its real meaning. Only by clarity of thinking can we find our way around through the deluge of words, the lecturer concluded.

Mrs. G. B. MacLeod, president of the club, introduced Mr. Cameron as a "fellow Maritimer." He was thanked by Mrs. W. F. Worfolk. George Hutchins, a young pianist, played pieces by Bach and Brahms.

Mrs. MacLeod told the members that a total of \$1,131.69 had been received during the year for the war-treasure fund, and that disbursements have left a balance of \$38.90. She spoke on behalf of "Bundles for Britain," and asked for donations between the present and the close of the club year.

EXPECT SALE WILL CONTINUE

TORONTO, March 25—(CP)—Officials of companies handling the distribution of the Saturday Evening Post and Collier's magazines in Toronto said today they presumed the publishing companies would take no steps to halt the sale in Canada, even though a price increase going into effect in the United States is not allowed in Canada by government order.

MERCHANT SEAMEN DECORATED

LONDON—(CP)—Five merchant seamen who fought a five-hour gun battle with a U-boat and then escaped with 23 others in a half-filled lifeboat when another submarine sank their tanker, have been decorated by the navy.

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Mr. and Mrs. John Burke of 175 Sydney Street, City have the proud distinction of having five sons serving with the Armed forces. The five are shown above and are as follows. From left to right: Pte. Anthony with the P. E. I. Highlanders

Pte. Vernon at a training centre on the mainland; Pte. James with a High Land Unit, overseas; Wilfred with a Forestry Corps, also serving overseas while on the extreme right is Gunner Eddie, serving in Canada with an artillery unit.

OTTAWA, March 25—(CP)—The marriage of Canadian army, plus reserves, in the