

Slow Boat
From Marcellias
 By Michael Hastings
 continued
 CHAPTER VII
 PLAN FOR MURDER

"I do not claim to have the skill of an Eismann," said Prinz. "But I have conducted three cornea grafting operations — and each one has been successful. True, your own is a more complicated case, falling into two parts. First, the eye which is still partly serviceable, must be made sound. After that we can turn to the greater problem of the dead eye."

"I will go over the details with you," said Rutter. "Among my papers you will find some notes. I gave careful attention to myself and visualized the entire operation. We will go over my notes together. But first, let us plan how it is to be done. There are several things for us to take into consideration. We must select the passenger who is to have the honour of helping me. We have to consider disposing of the body when we have finished the operation."

"We must plan with the greatest of care. First, the time of the operation. That must be done at night, when there is no risk of passengers coming up on deck. We can, perhaps, produce some reason for forbidding them to come up. It would be sufficient to explain that we believe a warship to be in the vicinity . . ."

"The next point is to make sure that the first mate is not free to prow about the ship."

"Perhaps while he is resting, before taking the watch at midnight," Prinz suggested. "Lacoste will be on duty which leaves Zakas free to assist in anything we may require."

"I have a better plan," said Rutter. "It should be done after midnight, while Oliver is on the bridge. Fortunately, he is too good an officer to leave his post. When the time comes to dispose of the body, Zakas shall go up and engage him in some sort of conversation. The best thing would be for Zakas to take him into the small chart room. From there, the deck cannot be seen."

"That will only leave the crew," said Prinz thoughtfully.

"There again it will be necessary for us to call upon Zakas. He will have to rearrange the crew so that those on duty are such as we can trust to remain silent afterwards. After all, are not two of our own people acting as sailors? They will obey any order — provided it comes from the right quarter. You can deliver it."

Prinz made a note in his book.

"We can prepare for that, then," he said. "But as the crew do watch and watch about, alternating their hours by the short dog-watches, it will be necessary to determine the night of the operation in advance. That increases our difficulties; because we shall want as calm a sea as possible." He shook his head. "I would not like to attempt so delicate an operation with the ship heaving about."

"That is to be taken for granted," Rutter said. "We must hope for fine weather. The point is to make preliminary arrangements so that we can work according to plan at a moment's notice. Now there is another thing. You will require some assistance. You will have to rely upon Zakas. He has had a little medical experience in his career at sea. There is the added advantage that we can rely on him not to betray us afterwards."

Prinz looked at him sharply.

"Certainly, we have a hold over him," he said. "But once he is away from us . . ."

Rutter gave an exclamation of impatience. "Do you seriously think that we can permit that?" he demanded. "Zakas will be dealt with — as soon as his usefulness has ceased. You see," he went on, "according to the last communication I received through the usual channels, preparations have been carried out exactly as designed at first. There is a large, isolated building which has a high wall around it. Eismann is already living there. He has fitted up a laboratory. Nobody will know what goes on behind those walls. First, there will be the second operation on my eye. After that, we resume the experiments which were interrupted. The day will come when our country will have need of our knowledge. Until then, it is our duty to continue with our labours."

"I see," said Prinz. "I wondered why so many passengers."

"It is fortunate," said Rutter calmly, "that my researches had gone so far that I needed very few subjects to complete my work."

A new thought came to Prinz. Then he said, in little more than a whisper, "But what of Milany and his daughter? You will, of course, release them?"

"I have not yet decided," said Rutter. "They have their value at the moment. Later, they may present difficulties. It is possible that we may have to keep them prisoner. Naturally, their origin prevents them from being used — moreover, Milany himself is highly accomplished. I feel that the best plan will be for them to go down with the ship."

Prinz stared at him.

(To be continued)

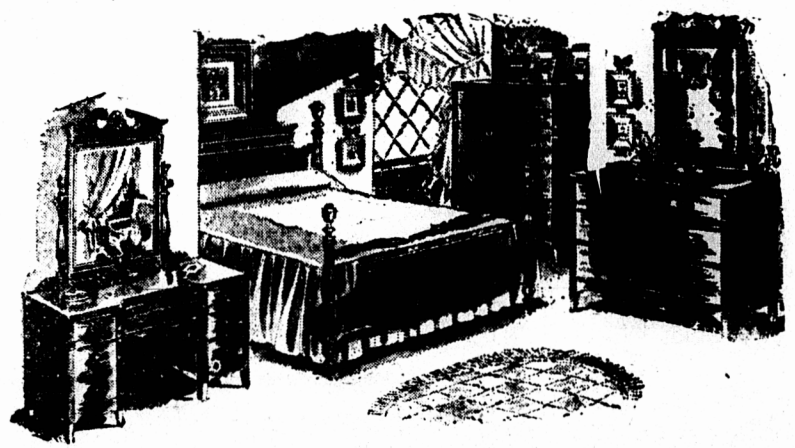
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"WHERE OLD FRIENDS MEET"

BLOOMFIELD W. M. S. MEETS

—The Bloomfield United Church Women's Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Arthur Metherall of Mill River with the president, Mrs. A. W. Craswell presiding. There were nine members one associate member and four visitors present. Mrs. Heber Profit was asked to order church calendars and Christmas cards. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Heber Profit for Dr. Florence Murray, who has recently been evacuated from Korea. It was announced that Dr. Murray will speak in the O'Leary United Church on Oct. 22nd in the morning and in Alberton at night.
 The worship and study was con-

ducted by Mrs. Arthur Metherall and the theme was, "Christ's Disciples Bring Light." Assisting in the service was Mrs. R. H. Hunter, Mrs. Craswell and Mrs. Lester Profit. The study, "The United Church Re-enters Japan" was well prepared by the leader and was interesting and instructive. The following ladies assisted the leader in presenting the study, Mrs. Harry Arbing, Mrs. R. F. MacAusland, Mrs. E. R. Stetson and Miss Adele MacAusland.
 Refreshments were served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. Harry Arbing, Mrs. E. R. Stetson and Mrs. Bruce Carrighers. The November meeting will be held at

the manse in O'Leary and the refreshment committee will be, Mrs. E. R. MacAusland, Mrs. John Lewis and Mrs. R. F. MacAusland.
 One large and one small carton of warm clothing, also two quilts, one blanket and medical supplies, thread, needles, pins, fasteners, soap and various other items so necessary in a home, were packed for the Labrador mission.
CHARLETON W. I.
 The regular monthly meeting of Charlton Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Elmer Francis on Tuesday evening, Oc-

tober 10th. The president, Mrs. Albert Craswell, presided, and opened the meeting with the ode and creed.
 Nine members responded to roll call by naming their favorite hobby. One visitor was present. The minutes were read and approved. It was decided that the secretary send \$5.25 to the Jubilee Endowment Fund. A report was given of the sale of lunches at the film show, proceeds being \$12.45, and proceeds from the sale of lunches at an auction sale in the district realized \$18.25.
 It was decided to show films in the school and sell lunches. Several members volunteered to take lunch.
 Correspondence was read and discussed. The school committee reported and liver oil capsules needed for the school children, and it was decided to send for 1,000 capsules. Lunch committee for next meeting—Mrs. Ernest Harper, Mrs. John Quigley, Mrs. Wilbur

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Cairns. Mrs. Ralph MacCaul kindly invited the members to meet at her home for the next meeting, when roll call will be responded to with a 25c donation to purchase articles for an overseas parcel. Collection taken amounted to \$1.30. Several educational films were shown. Lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by the committee in charge. The meeting closed with "The King."
MARKETS GROWING
PAARL, South Africa — (CP) — Speakers at the western province wine show here said Britain is importing more South African wine. Markets for South African brandy were growing in Canada and the

east, and in New Zealand, said J. G. Carinus, administrator of Cape Province.
DODDS KIDNEY PILLS
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