

The **COLLECTOR'S DIGEST**

(Vol. 4) No. 43. July 1950. Price 1s. 10 Post Free

An exciting scene from "BILLY BUNTER AMONG THE CANNIBALS" to be published in September & reproduced by kind permission of Messrs. Charles Skilton and photographed by Maurice Hall



OLD BOYS' BOOK CLUB
Northern Section

The June Meeting was held at 239, Hyde Park Rd. on the 24th instant. Although none of the Lancashire contingent could make it, there was an attendance of a dozen.

Owing to increasing activities of the Secretary it was thought Treasurer's duties should be taken over by someone else, so the following re-arrangement of Officers was decided upon:- Chairman, Reg. C. Hudson; Vice-Chairman, W.N. Williamson; Treasurer, Norman J. Smith; Secretary, W.H. Sawyer; Auditors, Clive Simpson and Gerald Allison.

A Magnet-Gem "Quiz" was held which Reg. Hudson won by a short head.

It was proposed and carried unanimously that at each Meeting a Talk should be given on some popular paper. Talk to last not longer than 20 minutes to give opportunity for Speaker to be bombarded with questions. Agreed to start off at next Meeting with the "Magnet". Others suggested - Harry Dowler "Boys Friend", Clive Simpson "Nelson Lee Library".

Owing to the Room not being available for 8th July the next Meeting was re-arranged for the 15th.

It was decided to form a Library for copies of papers available rather than sell outright. Gerald Allison was appointed Librarian. It was hoped to get papers to suit all tastes.

Attendance: R.A. Hudson, Norman Smith, Gerald Allison, Miss V. Coates, W.N. Williamson, W.F. Sawyer, S.F. Armitage, H. Barlow, C. Price, T.W. Puckrin, H. Twinham, and H. Leckenby.

Postscript: So eager was the company to indulge in reminiscencies that business was done in bits and pieces. In future "business first - nostalgia afterwards" must be the slogan.

H. Leckenby, Correspondent.

Wanted urgently for binding: Magnets numbers 961-970, 1163, 1187, 1193-4, 1613. N.J. Smith, 34, Waincliffe Mount, Beeston, Leeds, 11.



Vol.4. No.43.

Post Free

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JULY 1950

Editor, Miscellaneous Section
Herbert Leckenby, Telephone Exchange,
C/o Central Registry, Northern Command, York

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

That Delightful Dinner. It was only possible to make a few hurried remarks on the Leeds Dinner in our June issue, so I must add some further comments here.

It added another eventful chapter to our romantic story. One particular incident greatly impressed me. Reg Hudson, in an ideal little speech, paid tribute to Frank Richards, and was ably supported by Tom Sinclair. Then someone, I believe it was Gerry Allison, started off "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow". Though there were only just over a score of us, I should think, despite the traffic, we could have been heard in City Square. It was a happy, spontaneous little gesture. Reg and Tom you could tell were speaking from their very inner souls when they told of the good influence the stories of Charles Hamilton had had on them in their adolescent days. I wonder if it will ever be realised that many a name has appeared in the Honours Lists with no more right than that of that kindly gentleman still busily writing worth while stories, in the evening of his days by the coast of Kent. That's said quite seriously. What is the reason given for names appearing therein? That those honoured have done some good in the

world, and brought happiness to their fellow men, isn't it? Well, isn't that a claim we can justly make for our Frank Richards?

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The Annual's Taking Shape. It's summer time but we have to be thinking about Christmas and the Annual. First, a word about the price. Most of you know what happened last year, don't you? In our zeal we gave twenty more pages than originally intended and landed in a loss of about 1/3 a copy in consequence. Or, at least, there would have been if a lot of grand fellows had not come to the rescue. It was fine of you, nevertheless we don't want to put on your good nature again. You will have seen, too, that recently publications with plenty of backing like the "Strand", "Leader Magazine", "News Review", and Hutchinson's "Pie" quarterlies, have gone to the wall through rising costs of production. We don't anticipate much increased cost ourselves, so having gone into the whole question carefully we think we can produce an Annual of about the same size as last year, and just get clear, if we make the price 9/3. This providing we get a fair number of adverts, and that the circulation is increased. We are confident we can count on the latter, as new members keep joining the circle, and few leaving it.

We feel no one will quibble at 9/3, but if any consider it rather an item, we don't mind if they pay in instalments.

Now as to some of the contents. Of course the "Collector's Who's Who" will be there. Time and time again since Christmas I have been told of friendships that have been formed by its aid.

And there's another "Who's Who" we have been urged to provide this time, one concerning the "Artists", on the lines of the "Author's Who's Who" of two years ago. Biographical details about the artists, however, are more difficult to obtain, so we shall be grateful for any help you can give us. So please send along anything you know about H. M. Lewis, Paul Hardy, Val Reading, Robert Prowse, E.E. Briscoe, Warwick Reynolds, and the many others we have admired through the years. The artists have never had the credit they deserved.

Then, nearing completion already are - "The Rise and Fall of the Boys' Friend" (with a list of its famous serials) and "They Wrote of Sexton Blake", a record of the authors who wrote the stories in the three series S.B.L's.

Others we hope to have include "Rookwood Review" by Bill Gender, lists of the Gem and Magnet Serials, "An Amazing Pair" The Gem and Magnet", by yours truly; a candid biography of Vernon Smith by Roger Jenkins (his "Cardew" last year was one of the high lights) and "They Came to St. Jims" by Len Packman. Nelson Lee fans will not be forgotten. In the unfortunate event of Bob Blythe being unable to complete his popular "How They Arrived", Jack Wood hopes to step into the breach.

I daresay before publishing day I shall be wrinkling my brows and saying "Now how am I going to get all this in?" Nevertheless, I want you to submit articles, or suggestions, and the sooner the better. You also find Questionnaires and Order Forms with this issue. Please return the former as quickly as possible, for it's a huge task preparing the "Who's Who" and this time we don't want to miss anyone out.

"The Cryptogram". Last month we stated that Mr. Vincent Sterrett, columnist on "Chicago Tribune", was anxious to know if Murrey Graydon's story "The Cryptogram" had ever been published in England. Just after we had gone to press I, by pure chance, picked up a copy of "Nuggets" for September 1897. Therein was a paragraph saying "The Cryptogram" was just starting in the "Weekly Budget", another Henderson paper. Strange how these things happen.

Publicity for Peard:— Staunch Gemite, Peard Sutherland of Vancouver, had a terrific write-up in "Vancouver Sunday Sun". One whole page was devoted to a photograph of the genial Peard and his charming daughter, named after the river which flows near St. Jims. Another page and a bit tells of his story paper collecting activities and several other hobbies, with three more photos, one showing him with a pile of Gems. Nice work, Peard.

Behind Time. Unavoidably the C.D. went out later than usual last month. As a consequence we got several enquiries from readers who wondered if they had been overlooked. Sorry if we caused you anxiety, but it seems to make it evident you look forward to the coming of the little magazine, and that greatly pleases

Yours sincerely,
HERBERT LECKENBY

MY NORTHERN TRIPby Leonard Packmen

On Saturday May 27th 1950 I commenced my eight day Northern tour, arriving at York station at 12.30 p.m., to find Herbert Leckenby's rugged features beaming at me from the platform entrance. He at once took charge by escorting me to my "digs", and then my tour of York began in earnest.

First a visit to Wood's Duplicating Agency, in a delightful old world street, to find in the window a specimen cover of last year's C.D. Annual waiting to greet me. Then a pleasant chat with the friendly and obliging proprietor, Mr. Wood, who, I might add, behind the scenes gives up a lot of his private time to the manifold problems not generally appreciated in the dispensation of our magazine. Next a visit to the famous Kirk Museum, where, on looking out of a window I found myself gazing on a cobbled street, all complete with Hansom cab. This was really part of the museum, being an exact replica of a street as it was in the early days of Sexton Blake whom I could almost imagine to be seated in that cab, his alert brain engaged in unravelling one of his multi-fold problems.

After tea, a general walk around the many old "gates" of the City, where, from time to time Herbert pointed out certain shops wherein during his boyhood he bought stacks of the dear old papers. Also, these shops have changed completely, both in style and trade, but in Herbert's eyes he could still see the rows of books, all colours of the rainbow, each and every one a feast of reading, waiting for the lucky buyer. Then a stroll and a long chat on the famous York walls.

Sunday, a visit to the Barracks to see where Herbert performs his telephonic legerdemain, and a stroll by the river, the most beautiful spot being where the Ouse and its tributary the Foss meet at the Blue Bridge.

Monday, another visit to the Telephone Exchange, this time opening many packages piled up in a corner of the room. Many and varied were the old treasures I handled, some of which had not seen daylight for ages!

In the afternoon I met Mrs. Leckenby who over tea told me a lot about York and later escorted me over its lovely Minster, the ancient Shambles, and other famous spots.

And then, in the evening, came the parting when I was put on the bus: for Knaresborough where I arrived an hour later, to be greeted at that end by Clive Simpson.

On the way to his residence he pointed out various things of great interest, the finest of all being a magnificent panorama representing some of the loveliest scenery, both in this country and abroad, it has been my pleasure to see.

A good feed and a grand evening in the company of Clive and his wife, not forgetting a happy introduction to three of the sweetest children I have ever met.

Tuesday, another delightful day here. Lunch in a pretty little restaurant, with all the family, a happy time with the kiddies, and in the evening a look at Clive's collection of old papers. My! I never realised what a large collection he had.

Wednesday, goodbye to Knaresborough, with a possibility of a re-union in London shortly, and then on to Leeds, where, on arrival at the terminus, I found another good friend, Bill Sawyer awaiting me. Back with him to his home at Seacroft to meet Mrs. Sawyer, like myself, a Londoner. An excellent lunch and inspection of the garden - a profusion of flowers and plants, representing the fruits of Bill's hard work. In the evening a visit to Norman Smith, to be entertained by him and his kindly parents. I might add that Norman's many Magnets, magnificently bound, in many volumes, are a sight worth seeing. Then back to Bill's to enjoy a good night's sleep. Thursday, by arrangement and promptly to time, I met Breeze Bentley in Leeds, returning with him to his home at Bradford. Here I was greeted by Mrs. Bentley and "family" (a gentle, loveable St. Bernard dog!), and, after an excellent lunch, a visit to such delightful places as Cottingley and Bingley. Here we walked through some of the loveliest lanes one could wish for, our pedestrianism suitably broken half way by a rest for light refreshment.

On return to Bradford, an inspection of Breeze's many parcels of Magnets (over 75% of the total issues!), Gems and S.O.L's, followed by supper, and finally adieu to my host and hostess, the former escorting me half way back to Leeds.

Friday, a visit to the centre of the town with Bill Sawyer, where I purchased a copy of the latest Tom Merry book, and then, leaving Bill, I made my way to Davenport via Manchester where I met Clifford Beardsell, and together we made our way to home in Davenport. No sooner had I been introduced to

Mrs. Beardsell and had a little chat than Harry Dowler arrived by bicycle from Manchester, and, in happy company, we set down to the festive board.

A grand "threesome" chat followed, the chief topic being, of course, Maxwell Scott and the Hobby generally! The evening passed all too quickly, and having bid adieu to Harry pro tem - it was time for bed.

Saturday morning found Clifford showing me some of the beauty spots of the district, and then, in the afternoon we made our way to Leeds for the "Dinner", being joined at Manchester by Harry Dowler and Phil Warren, the latter being introduced to me for the first time. The two-hour journey spent talking to my new friends seemed but a matter of minutes - such is the enthusiasm of our Hobby!

At the Rendezvous we were joined by numerous mutual friends from all over the North, and at the appointed time we took our seats in the special room reserved for the function.

It would take too long to describe the many familiar names the owners of which greeted me for the first time, but a full report of the function will be found elsewhere in this magazine. Sufficient to say that I enjoyed every moment of it and only hope that my "few words" expressed my thoughts satisfactorily.

Alas, all good things come to an end, and after a good night's rest in my comfortable bed at Bill Sawyer's, I left Leeds the following morning to arrive somewhat late but happy, in London.

In conclusion, may I say that the Northerner's hospitality to his Southern "cousin" is really remarkable, and I look forward to such visits as certain of them may pay me, as an opportunity to return that hospitality.

FOR SALE: Complete works of Gunby Hadeth (also as John Mowbray) up to 1948. About 60 books, 4/6 each, including postage. Titles on request. Good condition, many autographed. A.J.Southway, P.O. Box 3, Beaconsfield, Cape Province, South Africa.

WANTED: All back numbers Collector's Digest. Also Annuals. Bill Martin, 93 Hillside, Stonebridge Park, London N.W.10.

WANTED URGENTLY: To complete sets. No's 7,9, and 10 of the Story Paper Collector. A.J.Southway, P.O.Box 3, Beaconsfield, Cape Province, South Africa.

THE BOYS' FRIEND 3d. LIBRARYby T. W. Puckrin

Although an article on this particular topic has been published in No. 35 of the S.P.C., I make no apology for continuing a very interesting theme. The article was written by Henry Adams Puckrin whose memory for times, dates and places is far better than my own, and, as he said himself, the topic is one that is capable of a good deal of extension. The stories were taken in the main from the big three, Boys' Friend, Boys' Realm and Boys' Herald. I think it is worth while to bring in other 3d Libraries not mentioned in the first article, if only to recall memories of the times when the big three were at the height of fame.

The first one that comes to the mind was David Goodwin's great invasion story "Britain Invaded". This appeared in 1906 and ran for six months. "Britain at Bay" and "Britain's Revenge" were the natural continuations of this very fine story. I have read many an invasion story but if there is a better one in existence I would like to read it. In my opinion David Goodwin was the outstanding boys' author of his time. Like "Jeeves" he stood alone, and the adventures of Sam and Stephen Villiers is a regular Odyssey. If a copy is still in existence any collector would be well advised to get it. Next we have "Ned Kelly" and the sequel "Trooper and Bushranger" by Cecil Hayter. Hayter was in the same class as David Goodwin, and his crisp racy style was a treat from the gods. Ned Kelly was the notorious Australian bushranger and the first story dealt with his exploits in that line. Ned Kelly carried out his daring exploits in a suit of armour, about the only modern bendit to adopt this expedient. The second story dealt with a reformed Ned Kelly hunting down a rival trading under his name. With the passing of time many of the incidents escape my memory, but collectors would be well advised to add it to their collection. Readers whose memory goes back over forty years will remember "King of Scouts". This was one I regret to say I never read. I believe it was written by W. Murray Graydon. "Hidden Millions", a treasure hunting story, by Cecil Hayter, was another good story. "Middies of the Fearless" by David Goodwin, with its attendant serial "Midshipman Drake, D.S.O." was another good story of the sea, and this also rang the bell. "The Rival Forts" and

the "Rival Explorers" come readily to ones mind. I don't know much about the first, but the second was an exciting story of rival polar expeditions.

By way of a change we have the "Porchester Fellows", a school story by an author whose name has escaped my memory. All I know is that "Jack Blake of St.Jims" appeared in the narration, though it was not by Frank Richards. One that comes more easily to the memory was A.S. Hardy's "Blue Crusaders" with of course the inevitable sequel "For League and Cup". The theme, a familiar one of a humble team winning professional status and of course the English Cup is a well worn one, but in its way it was unique. Old readers will no doubt remember Morton Pike's "Gilbert Nemeless", a story of the 'Prentice lads of London, "Guy of the Greenwood" and "King of the Woodlands". The last two were tales of Robin Hood, a theme that Morton Pike specialised in. Outside the Aldine publications, Morton Pike was the best authority on the carefree Rover of Sherwood. A boys' paper without a pirate story would be unthinkable. However, the only one I ever read in the 3d Libraries was S. Walkey's "Treasure Galleons of Eldorado". S. Walkey was as big an authority on pirates as Morton Pike was on Robin Hood, and many a fine pirate story flowed from his pen. The Sexton Blake stories have already been referred to, but David Goodwin's "Clogland" is worthy of honourable mention.

Several Greyfriars and St.Jims stories appeared in the Boys' Friend Library series. To praise these would be merely to guild the lily. The Boys' Friend Library is no more, but the Maestro is still with us bringing back nostalgic memories of happier and more peaceful times.

WANTED: Magnets 1175 to 1177 and 1181 to 1185. Gems 375 and 395. Condition important. Rev. A.G. Pound, 68 Finmore Road, Birmingham, 9.

FOR SALE: Several oddments; single copies of Union Jack, Wild West, True Blue, some Nelson Lees, 1st series; Boys' Own Libraries, Marvels, etc. S.A.E. for list. W.H.Clough, 3 Fonthill Grove, Sale, Manchester.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: After July 10th John Robyns will be at Trewellard, 13 Rapheel Road, Hove, 3.

WANTED odd copies fantasy books, "inventions", Captain Justice, Ferrers Lord, Spring-heeled Jack etc. Henry J.H.Bartlett, Peas Hill, Shipton Gorge, Bridport, Dorset.

POPULAR PAPERS OF THE PAST

No. 8 - "The Thriller"

Feb. 9th, 1929 - May 1940 - 587 issues.

by John W. Gocher

In the blissful nineteen-thirties when the shops were filled to over flowing with brightly illustrated magazines - and newsagents had difficulty in selling all their copies - the Amalgamated Press published what I propose to call a trio; namely, Detective Weekly, Sexton Blake Library and The Thriller. Each magazine devoted much space to advertising the contents of the other two, presumably because all three dealt with detective and mystery thrillers. Of the first two mentioned publications worthier pens than mine have dealt at great length and so, realising my limitations, for I was almost a baby when the Thriller first appeared, I am attempting here to deal with the career and contents of the Thriller.

The Thriller was launched on the ninth of February, 1929, and commenced its career with a long complete story by Edgar Wallace, then the acknowledged leader of that field of literature. It departed this life, a casualty of the Hitler War, in May, 1940, the word "War" having been added to its title. It was a lusty journal throughout, one, seemingly, of great popularity, and when one considers the world famous authors who wrote therein, there seems little doubt of its success.

Leslie Charteris, W. Murdoch Duncan, Peter Cheyney and James Ronald, all best selling authors of the present day, appeared often in the Thriller. W. Murdoch Duncan, now with ten best sellers to his credit and also other titles under noms de plume which I am not at liberty to divulge, commenced his career as a writer within its pages; he won the hundred pound prize offered for an original book-length thriller. The ghost of the Thriller can look down upon Mr. Duncan and feel a glow of satisfaction that it was that paper more than any other which launched him upon a successful career.

Many of the authors whom we associate with Sexton Blake wrote in the Thriller. Gwyn Evans, E.S. Brooks (the first Norman Conquest story, "Mr. Mortimer Gets the Jitters", was published under the name of Brooks and not Berkeley Gray, appeared in this paper and so, too, did Inspector Cromwell, G.H. Teed, Rex Hardinge, Anthony Skene, Donald Stuart (as himself

and as Gerald Verner), John Brandon, George Rochester, Gerald Bowman, John Hunter, L.C.Douthwaite, Barry Perowne, Coutts Brisbane, Ledbroke Black, John Cressay, Werwick Jardine, Stacey Blake. Walter Edwards, Pierre Quiroule, George Dilnot, Anthony Persons, Maurice B.Dix, D.L.Ames, John Sylvester, John Drummond, Richard Essex, and John Ascott are authors who come to mind. But there must have been others for I cannot claim by any means that my list of Thriller titles and authors is complete. What a galaxy of stars though the above list contains.

But what of those others? The authors who did not write Sexton Blake to our knowledge anyway? Who were they? The great Sydney Horler, author of dozens of successful mystery stories; the late David Hume, creator of Mark Carboy, the private detective; Kennedy Scotland, Bruce Greeme, much beloved for his celebrated Blackshirt stories, and now well known as an author of more mature mystery novels; Edmund Snell, Douglas Newton and Hugh Clevely, famous for many books and creator of the "Gang-Smasher" which was an extremely successful radio serial before the war.

We read those gems by the American author, Oscar Schigell, in the Thriller, and also the novels of Henry Holt, Peter Brampton, Hector Hewton, Patrick Wynnton and Roland Daniel whose novels have sold well over a million copies.

And then there was William J. Meakin, Ganpet, Richard Essex with his superb Lessinger stories (remember "They All Wanted Arabella Minter" in Thriller No.444), the evergreen David Whitelaw, Eric Taylor and Roy Vickers! But, perhaps, the most popular author to appear, by present day standards, was Frank King. Mr.King is well known for his Dormouse stories. He is also a regular contributor to magazines of the highest class.

And what of J.J.Farjeon, Francis Gerald (with his Meredith stories), Evedne Price, W.E.Johns, Grierson Dickson, Captain Frank Shew, Leonard Gribble, Mex Brand and Sinbad? They too are famous today, their books obtainable in any library in the country! Walter MacLeod, John Huddleston, Murray Hamilton, M.E.Miles, Allen Vaughan Elston and Read Clifford cannot be called unknown!

Maxwell Grant's stories of the Shadow, that mysterious man hunter, appeared with remarkable regularity. I remember reading in the Thriller which announced the first of these

stories that the Shadow had appeared on the films and upon the radio with great success. Nigel Morland, too, wrote occasionally for the Thriller. Everyone, it appears, knows Mrs. Pym, his Assistant Commissioner Detective, but he has created other characters, equally famous. Mr. Morland, it has been recently disclosed by Messrs. Wright & Brown, also writes under the pen name of Roger Garnett. Then there was Andrew Wood whose stories are to be found on any bookstall and, lastly, George Hermon Coxo of whose efforts I could talk throughout the night. Suffice let it be that he is one of the few American authors for whom I care.

That is a brief picture of the authors who wrote in the Thriller. There must have been dozens more for the paper ran to nearly 600 issues - 587 to be exact, John Drummond being responsible for the last story, Spy Bait, featuring that celebrated character, Red Sword - but their names I do not know. If anyone can add to the list I shall be much obliged, and if I have made errors put it down to a faulty memory.

And what of the artists who illustrated the Thriller? Taking my courage in both hands, I would imagine that Arthur Jones did the most work in this sphere, his peculiar shapeless gangsters were ever to be seen peering from dark alleys with hands stuffed suggestively in the pockets of shapeless raincoats! I know little of art, but Jones always struck me as an artist who was able to draw an action picture.

As I come to the end of this article memory stirs once more and several other names of authors return to me. Robert Murray, Herman Lenden, Fenton Robins, Merjery Allingham, are the names which spring to mind.

EXCHANGE. "Billy Bunter of Greyfriars," "Bunter's Banknote", "Bunter in Brazil", "Bunter's Benefit", Holiday Annual (1935), for Magnets, Gems, S.O.L's, or offers. Send list of swaps (numbers). Bernard Egan, 1 Dartmouth Terrace, Ranelagh, Dublin, Eire.

Boys' Own Lib. Nos. 55, 64, 67. Pride of the Ring, Lambs of Littlecote, More Larks at Littlecote, and Union Jack No. 633. Extras Double number 1915 exchange for Aldine Turpins or sell best offers. Oddments for sale. B.O.L's, Nelson Lee 1st Series, U.Jacks, Marvels, etc. S.A.E. W.H.Clough, 3 Fonthill Grove, Sale, Manchester.

The Nelson Lee Column

Conducted by Robert Blythe

(All communications temporarily to L. Peckman,
27, Archdale Road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.22)

Whilst at Knaresborough recently, Clive Simpson gave me the rather surprising information that a certain detective story, originally featuring Sexton Blake and Tinker, had also, at a later date, featured Nelson Lee and Nipper. He produced both these papers and, having read them, I find he is quite correct. The original story is entitled "The Golden Belts" or "The Pipe of Peace", Sexton Blake Library (1st series) No.21, and the condensed version in Nelson Lee Library (2nd New Series) No.130, is called "The Fortune Trail". The original author is Andrew Murray, and the central characters and the plot are precisely the same. It would, therefore, be interesting to know if any other Blake yarns were similarly treated. What about it, you Blake and Lee fans? Now for some more Boy's Realm St. Frank's titles.

51, Nipper's Benefit Show; 52, Fatty Little's Tuckshop;
53, Turning the Tables; 54, Unwelcome Visitors; 55, A Rank Outsider;
56, The Outsider's Plot; 57, Barred by the Remove; 58, Under Teddy Long's Thumb;
59, A Tyrant in Charge; 60, The Avenging Three; 61, A Bounder to the Last;
62, Langley-Mostyn's Trickery; 63, Shouldering the Blame; 64, Denounced by the Form;
65, The Fellow They Despised; 66, The Mystery Cricketer;
67, His Honour and the School's; 68, Reforming the Remove;
69, Under a Feddist Rule; 70, Foiling the Feddist; 71, His Own Fault;
72, A Discredit to the Form; 73, Japing the Japers;
74, Holding their Own; 75, Down with Footer; 76, The Spoil Sport;
77, Rebels of the Remove; 78, Fair Play and Foul;
79, Backs to the Wall 80, Thwarting the Tyrant;

I think that will do for now. More next month

And finally, the usual batch of Nelson Lee (O.S.) titles.

(This original series will probably be completed by October,

and will then form a very useful reference guide for all Nelson Lee lovers.)

431, The Schoolboy Slaves; 432, Captain Hurricane's Last Stand; 433, Buster the Bully; 434, The Feud at St. Frank's; 435, The Battle for the Captaincy; 436, A Rod of Iron; 437, The Despot of the Remove; 438, The 'Die-hards' of the Remove; 439, The 'Fifth' at St. Frank's; 440, Armistice Day at St. Frank's; 441, The Green Car; 442, U.S.A. at St. Frank's; 443, The Sign of 13; 444, The Treasure of Don Santos; 445, The Night Owl's Prey; 446, The Schoolboy Santa Claus; 447, The Ghost of St. Frank's; 448, The School Museum Mystery; 449, The Evil Eye of Beel; 450, The Curse of the Moon God; 451, The Sign of the Sacred Scareb; 452, The Spell of the Mystic; 453, The Temple of Silence; 454, The Schoolboy Spy; 455, The Invasion of St. Frank's; 456, The Amazing Mr. Smith; 457, Driven to Revolt; 458, Hand-forth's Rebellion; 459, The Rising of the Rebels; 460, The Siege of the Rebels; 461, The Island Fortress; 462, The Rebel Remove; 463, Fighting for St. Frank's; 464, The Schoolboy Circus Owner; 465, The St. Frank's Circus; 466, Under the Canvas Dome; 467, School and Circus; 468, Queen of the Ring; 469, Circus Against Circus; 470, Trapped on the Trapeze.

Don't forget, you Nelson Lee Enthusiasts, if you have any items of interest generally - or any queries - let me hear from you whenever you like.

Old Boys' Book Club

GREENWICH MEETING, Sunday June 18, 1950

The friendly and homely atmosphere of Charlie Wright's home was the rendezvous of the June meeting. There was a good attendance and several apologies for unavoidable non-attendance.

The chairman opened the proceedings in his usual good style and the formal business was soon disposed of. The bulk of the correspondence was from postal members expressing approval of the crested club stationery. The smaller design of the crest was thought a great improvement, also the italic printing of the address. Quotas of this notepaper is being dispatched to all postal and overseas members.

The question of supplying postal members with books was raised by the secretary as in his opinion they get a raw deal

by not being able to attend the monthly sales and exchanges. The chairman proposed that this important matter be fully discussed at the next meeting. This was agreed to by an unanimous vote.

After some very good discussions it was also agreed that the debates on the various merits of papers, schools, detectives, etc., be resumed next month.

A letter quiz was then held and this resulted in another dead heat for the first place between Len Peckman and Bob Whiter who both had twenty-one points. Third place was secured by Ben Whiter who mustered twelve points. While on the subject of the quiz it was decided to hold special ones for the postal members.

A hearty welcome was given to Edmund Cox of Southampton who was attending his first meeting.

Owing to Robbie removing from Brighton to Hove he will not be able to have our Sussex meeting next month, so it was agreed to accept the kind offer of Eric Fayne to have our July meeting at The Modern School, Grove Road, Surbiton on Sunday July 30 next, at 5 o'clock. Members can spend the day enjoying the local amenities such as Hampton Court and the river Thames ere assembling at the meeting.

The Chairman briefly outlined his northern tour and stated that a full report will appear in the July C.D.

The excellent catering was once more carried out by Olive Wright and thanks are due to both her and Charlie for a very successful meeting.

Attendance: Charlie, Olive and Alan Wright, Ian, Josie and Eleanor Peckman, Ron and Mares Deacon, E. Cox, ... Blunden, J. Geal, E. Reynolds, C. Wallis, R. Southwood, Alan Stewart, A. Young, W. Lawson, Bob and Ben Whiter.

BENJAMIN G. WHITER.

FOR SALE: Magnets, Gems, Union Jacks, Detective Weeklies, S.O.L's, and Holiday Annuels. Offers. D. Reader, 141 Heathfield Road, Hendsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED "Odds" 1908-1938. Reasonable. E. V. Hughes, Caswell, 25 Hillsboro' Road, Bognor Regis.

Hamiltonia

Conducted by Herbert Leckenby

A lady member was heard to say in the "get-together" following the Leeds dinner, "Why always Bunter?" She was quite serious about it. She insisted he wasn't exactly a pleasant character, yet he seemed to get all the limelight, putting into the background the really nice fellows like Harry Wharton & Co.

Well, it's an interesting subject for debate, for despite the undoubted fact that Bunter had, or has, hardly one single redeeming virtue, he is certainly one of the most popular, and the most famous character in juvenile fiction, and firmly established in the English language. How do you account for it?

Old-timers will remember that in the early days of the Magnet Bunter was not at all a bad sort of chap. True, he had the same enormous appetite, but it was more on Fatty Wynn lines. And if I remember rightly he was telling the tale about his postal order right from No.1. But he was quite a useful fellow to have around for he was such a good cook. Harry Wharton & Co. called him "Billy" and there was not such an urge to kick him out of studies the moment he showed his face.

Later he lost most of his virtues, and developed villainies, vices, and follies. Yet gradually he pushed Harry Wharton & Co out of the limelight, and his bulk invariably occupied a goodly proportion of the Magnet cover.

Boy readers despised him, and fond parents would have been horrified at the thought of their offspring being anything like Bunter. Yet when the fat youth had done something particularly outrageous and was in danger of being expelled, all the sons, and quite a few of the fathers, exclaimed "Poor old Bunter". And if ever it had been resolved to sack him from the pages of the Magnet a roar of protest would have gone up, sufficient to shake the very foundation of Fleetway House.

So here, forty years on, we have it that that once handy, but obscure little cook and washer-up of the Greyfriars Remove provides headlines for hard-boiled Fleet Street newshounds along with Falstaff and the Fat Boy of Peckham. What's more, one keeps hearing the word "Bunter" coming over the ether from the B.B.C.

Yes, sure, it's curious. How do you account for it? Can it be put in one short sentence, "The genius of Frank Richards"? Think of that irresistible series "Bunter of Bunter Court". Could anyone else have put that over? What do you think?

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And now here's more of Peter Walker's popular peeps into the past.

Collectors Crawl

by P.A. Walker

I suppose that collecting old boys' books is rather like collecting stamps or butterflies, or coins, or china, in fact anything that people do collect. Apparently the collecting of cigarette cards is quite a high-falutin' hobby, and I can well understand this, as, in the past, I have had something to do with the preparation of cigarette cards, and know what does into them.

As time goes on, one becomes a connoisseur. You seize on to a green covered Gem as one seizes on to a black Mauritius. "Nobody's Study" becomes as important as No.50 in the "Dominion of Canada" series. "Bob Cherry's Barring-Out" is almost worth quids! And if you could lay your hands on "Loyal to the Last", you would cheerfully give up your sweet coupons for the next period!

The gradual formation of a Collectors' Circle has undoubtedly increased one's chances of adding to one's collection of old books. The complete unselfishness of many collectors is amazing. They part with ancient copies without turning a hair. A treasured Magnet will change hands in order to help a far-distant member of the circle. Which is all very nice, and shows a fine spirit of comradeship.

With the growth of the circle, and the cementing of the various friendships that have sprung up as a result of the correspondence, there is less dashing about in frantic search of hoary issues, which brings us to the main theme of this dissertation.

Several years ago one of my main preoccupations was to visit an open-air market situated in the very centre of Nottingham. This has gone now, but in those days there existed a certain stall whose business it was to sell old second-hand books and papers. On frequent occasions it was possible to

pick up Gems and Magnets and Union Jacks and Nelson Lees. One never to be forgotten occasion was the successful purchase of over one hundred green-covered Gems and nearly a couple of hundred red Magnets.

A famous Talbot series, "The Call of the Past", "Cast Out of the School" and "Loyal to the Last" were three famous Gems obtained from this source, and one well remembers seeing lying there in excellent condition the famous Magnet containing "The Race to the Tuckshop".

In those years of 1918-1919-1920 there existed in Nottingham some pretty grim slum quarters, now happily gone for ever. One street, which I believe, rejoiced in the name of Red Lion Street, boasted a book-shop. From there I have procured many an ancient Gem.

An amazing stroke of luck occurred one day whilst visiting London. Early in 1920 I was strolling along a street in North London named Seven Sisters Road when I spotted an ancient looking second-hand book-shop. On the floor in various parts of various rooms were books and papers of every description, and after long and dusty searching a huge pile of red Magnets and green Gems was unearthed.

I bought at the colossal sum of ½d. each some two hundred books and papers, including Boys' Friend 3d Libraries, Sexton Blekes, and of course the Magnets and Gems, and commissioned a passing taxi in order to get the haul home.

Odd numbers cropped up from time to time in the most unexpected places. My copy of Magnet No.1 was discovered whilst visiting the home of an uncle in Melton Mowbray whose eldest son used to take the Companion Papers. Needless to say the discovery of this led to more energetic measures being taken to secure more, and much to my delight, the arrival home one week-end of the sforessid cousin revealed a small hoard of red Magnets dating back to 1908.

The early death of a friend at the age of eighteen resulted in me obtaining his collection of Gems which dated back to 1913 and was almost complete.

"Figgin's Fig-Pudding" was a find in a back street in Derby. "Cousin Ethel's Schooldays" was picked up in Liverpool as recently as 1930. And in the ancient arcades of Bristol I have found a 1921 Holiday Annual, and a few Magnets for 1918.

On one of my inquiries put to the grizzled proprietor of a certain shop brought a wry grin to his face.

"Magnets and Gems," he said. "Yes, I had hundreds. They were all destroyed by a fire-bomb in 1940! Despite his certainty that this was the case, I insisted on investigating his showrooms, but in vain. There was nothing there. However, at a later date I did find a Holiday Annual for 1925, but without a cover.

There is a lot to be said for this gentle form of exercise which frequently takes one into the most interesting places, and gives a tremendous amount of pleasure in the patient search for an old Magnet or Gem.

Admittedly it is much easier to stretch out a hand and grab a parcel from the postmen which contains half-a-dozen very nice copies of the Gem from Mr. Leonard Packmen, or a nice round dozen Magnets from Mr. Smith of Diss in Norfolk. But we do like the prowling round, and the terrific thrill of glimpsing some ancient cover hiding underneath piles of unwanted rammel.

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Magnet Titles (continued)

274, Standing by Skinner; 275, Peter Todd's Chances; 276, Wan Lung's Secret; 277, Holding the Fort; 278, In Direct Peril; 279, His Own Betrayal; 280, The Schoolboy Dramatists; 281, Quits; 282, In Another's Name; 283, The Sendow Girl at Greyfriars; 284, Uncle Fish; 285, The False Form Master; 286, The Sports of the School; 287, Self-denial Week at Greyfriars; 288, Shunned by the Form; 289, The Nut of Greyfriars; 290, The Schoolboy Shopkeepers; 291, Up Against It; 292, Bunter the Prize-winner; 293, The Moonlight Footballers; 294, Bravo the Bouncer; 295, The Nesk's Revenge; 296, The Greyfriars Herald; 297, Game to the Last; 298, The Vanished Schoolboy; 299, The Greyfriars Gold-diggers; 300, The Coker Cup; 301, Cast up by the Sea; 302, The Biter Bit; 303, The Scapegoat; 304, In Borrowed Plumes; 305, The Four Heroes; 306, Harry Wharton's Christmas Number; 307, Good Old Coker; 308, Ructions in the Remove; 309, Held Up; 310, The Right Sort; 311, Trouble with Highcliffe; 312, Bunter's Black Chum; 313, The Factory Rebels; 314, Peter Todd's Plot; 315, The Snob Lesson; 316, The White Feather; 317, Blundell's Prize; 318, The Missing Chinese; 319, Alonzo's Marvellous Mixture; 320, Easy Terms; 321, April Fools All; 322, Wibley's Wheeze; 323, The Runaway; 324, Harry Wharton's Diplomacy; 325, Coker's Plot.

LETTER



The Next Bunter Book

June 15th, 1950.

Dear Herbert Leckenby,

Thank you for the C.D., and your cheery letter. C.D. still stands for Continuous Delectation! I was very specially interested in your article on early "Pluck". 1906 is a long time ago, but I recall very vividly those early days of St.Jim's. It is really hard to believe that almost half a century has elapsed since "Jack Blake of St.Jim's" was typed on a No.7 Remington, the machine I used in those days: did not change to the "visible" machine till about 1920 or 1921. I think you are right that the editor couldn't have foreseen that J.B. would still be in the Fourth Form at St.Jim's forty-four years later! But he certainly did foresee a run of some length. I still have some of his letters written at that time, preserved because they were so pleasant, — in fact he was, and still is, a very pleasant person. It was he who suggested the introduction of a "swell" character: result, Arthur Augustus D'Arcy added to the flock. I remember that I did not like it a little bit when St.Jim's was transferred to the new paper, the Gem, and in fact felt a little sore about it; however, I desesay it was all for the best. Things generally do turn out for the best, in the long run.

I am very glad to hear that the Leeds function was such a success. I have heard about it from several quarters, every letter on the subject extremely interesting to me.

"Billy Bunter and the Blue Mauritius" is finished now, and with the publisher. There will be a reproduction of that famous Twopenny on the jacket, which may interest readers of a philatelic turn. It was pinched from Sir Hilton Popper, and hidden — of all places! — in Bunter's big gold watch!

"Jack of All Trades" has been a little delayed, but we hope to see it out in a week or two more.

With kind regards,

Always yours sincerely,

FRANK RICHARDS.

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The Great Tuckshop Mystery

3 Montgomery Drive,

Sheffield 7.

June 13th, 1950.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Referring to Mr. John Geal's enquiry in the June "C.D." I was surprised to learn that the "Told in the Tuckshop" stories had appeared in the "Modern Boy". I first encountered them in the final issues of "The Gem", the first in No. 1659, continuing in No. 1662, the penultimate issue of the paper. The stories were credited to a well known A.P. and B.O.P. author, George E. Rochester, and are quite similar in style to his work, especially "The Freak of St. Freda's" published in "The Poplar" in 1927, later as a bound book. The A.P. also issued the "Tuckshop" stories in No. 398 of the "Schoolboys' Own Library" in 1940, but the author's name was not given. In my opinion the style of writing is dissimilar to Gunby Hadeth and the two characters bearing the same names as the Claverhouse scholars mere coincidence.

The Claverhouse yarns were republished in "The Boys' Friend Library" twice as follows:-

2nd series

- No. 242, Cloyne of Claverhouse - Welly Hammond
- No. 293, Captain of Claverhouse - Welly Hammond
- No. 676, Cloyne of Claverhouse - no author given
- No. 680, Captain of Claverhouse - ditto.

Yours sincerely,

LEONARD M. ALLEN.

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Please address all Sexton Blake correspondence to the
Editor of Blakiana, H.B. Bond, 10 Erw Wen, Rhinbina, Gardiff.
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THE ROUND TABLE - JULY 1950.

As promised last month, practically the whole of this issue of Blakiana is taken up with details of the UNION JACK for the years 1924, 1925 and 1926. Recently we have been so cramped for space that we have been quite unable to include these lists, but by the correspondence received this has not met with general approval and so I thought we would make a splash this month. Actually these lists prove to be what might be called a "godsend" for indeed I am so hard up for material that had it not been for the lists I would have had to write all Blakiana myself, or cut it down to a couple of pages. Besides being actual fact this is also a hint to all you Blakeians to play up and send along your contributions.

My co-editor seems to have found last month's article "Winning His Spurs" of great interest. Perhaps Walter Webb would like to reply to him through our pages. Here is what Herbert says:-

Dear Maurice,

I was greatly interested in Walter Webb's article in your section of the June issue. He says

The Round Table (Continued).

W. Shaw Rae's story bears a certain resemblance to Hal Meredith's "The Mystery Millionaire" and I feel certain they were one and the same. But it is also fairly established that they were just two pen names of Harry Blyth's, and I was always under the impression that that was his real name. Walter therefore did surprise me when he said that Shaw Rae was actually Ernest Troston. That certainly is news to me. Troston wrote "A Boy's Cross Roads" a story of the boyhood of Charles Peace, for "The Boy's Realm" and the "Idle Apprentice", Jack Shoppards boyhood for "The Boy's Friend", and I could never see any similarity in style with those mentioned by Walter. However he seems to have some reason for his statement as I should be interested to know what it is. There's a remarkable circumstance about that story "Winning His Spurs". The "Princess Alice" disaster was, of course, an actual one and did occur in 1878. So seeing Blake was then just out of his 'teens he should by now be in sight of his centuary! And seeing that (according to Cecil Hayter) Blake met Tinker whilst at Oxford, the Shaw Rae story makes "the lad" around about the nineties! We were content to have him somewhere in his fifties, but ninety! Strouth!

Yours banteringly
Herbert Leckenby.

Since writing my June "Blakiana" remarks re the use of MR. CAMLER (Tinker) by Anthony Parsons I find that the same author has gone further. Now it is EDWARD CAMLER. Once again I ask Mr. Parsons to let us know how he arrives at this name. Cut it our Mr. Parsons. There is no reason for change. Tinker was good enough in the old days and it is good enough now. And may I appeal to the Editor of the S.B.L. to insist that Tinker's false name be banned from future stories.

Cheerio for now.
H.H. Bond.

DON'T FORGET TO SLID ALONG THOSE ARTICLES. VERY URGENT!!!

THE UNION JACK for 1924.

1056.The Return of Mr. Rooco.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1057.The Golden Lotus.		Gunga Dass.
1058.The Medium of Portman Sq.		
1059.On the Right Hand Wall.	P. Quiroule.	Granite Grant.
1060.The House In The Maze.		
1061.The Spider's Web.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1062.Case Of the Haunted Works.		
1063.Sign of the Yellow Dragon.	A. Murray.	The Owl.
1064.Street of Many Lanterns.	G.H. Teed.	Yvonne.
1065.The Train of Tragedy.	A. Skene.	Zonith.
1066.The Green Portfolio.	G.H. Teed.	Huxton Rymar.
1067.The Hummy's Train.	G.H. Teed.	Prince Lenos.
1068.Mystery of the Mask of Birth.		
1069.Secret of the Sarcophagus.		
1070.Key Man of the Confederation.	Murray.	Confederation.
1071.The Time Killer.		
1072.The Panic Maker.		
1073.Case of Cormack's Key.		
1074.Graft.		
1075.The Stranglehold.		
1076.Syndicate For Sale.	L.Jackson.	Leon Kostrol.
1077.The Electric Man.	E.S.Brooks.	Waldo.
1078.Great Wembley Mystery.	G.Chester.	The Hales.
1079.Plumbers Missing Million.	G.H.Teod.	G.H. Plummer.
1080.Case of the Lost Lobangu.	C.Mayter.	Lobangu/Loosely.
1081.The Lizard Man.		
1082.Strange Case of the Jig Saw Puzzle.	Skene.	Zonith.
1083.Quest of the Jewelled Globe.	G.H.Teod.	3 Musketeers.
1084.Strange Case of the Runaway Surgeon.	Jackson.	Kostrol.
1085.The Rival Presidents.	R.Murray.	Confederation.
1086.Case Of The Strange Sickness.	G.H.Teod.	Wu Ling.
1087.Mystery of the Random Bullet.	P.Quiroule.	Grant.
1088.The Trail of Broken Man.		Moonslayer.
1089.The Case Of The Missing Atholote.		
1090.Roges of the 'Revontazin'.		
1091.The Man In Steel.	A. Skene.	Zonith.
1092.The Secret Of The Bottle	G.H.Teod.	The Black Eagle.
1093.Plumner's Death Ray.	H.Osborne.	Plumner.
1094.Rocco On The Run.	R.Murray.	Confederation
1095.Adventure Of The Black Spider.		
1096.The Affair of the Yellow Bricks.	Teod.	Yvonne.

THE HINTON JACK for 1924 (continued).

1097. The Mandarin's Millions.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1098. The Wizard Of Wurtz.	A. Skene.	Zonith.
1099. The Law Of The Claw.	L. Jackson.	Kestrel.
1100. The Latin Quarter Mystery.	G.H. Toed.	
1101. Black Magic.		
1102. The Fog Fiends.	G. Chester.	The Nales.
1103. The Clayton Court Mystery.	P. Quiroulo.	Granite Grant.
1104. The Leopard Of Droone.	E.S. Brooks.	Waldo.
1105. Sexton Blakes Xmas Truce.	G.H. Toed.	* See end of list
1106. The Kentish Smugglers.		Loonslayer.
1107. The Secret of the Dutch Garden/ 1108.		

THE HINTON JACK for 1925.

1108. The Ghost Raisers.		
1109. Affair of the Tartan Box.	G.H. Toed.	Yvonne.
1110. Secret Of Tortoise Island.	G.H. Toed.	Huxton Rymor.
1111. The House of The Horoscope.	G. Chester.	
1112. Adventure Of the Blue Bowl.	G.H. Toed.	Yvonne.
1113. The House On The Cliff.	G.H. Toed.	Yvonne/Hines.
1114. Crime of Stanley Trail.	G.H. Toed.	
1115. The Case of the 7th Key.	P. Quiroulo.	Granite Grant.
1116. Absolute Authority.	A. Skene.	Zonith.
1117. Found Found and Lost.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1118. Affair of the Roman Relics.	E.S. Brooks.	Waldo.
1119. Recco's Republic.	R. Murray.	Confederayion
1120. Case Of The Living Head.	G.H. Toed.	
1121. Case Of The Empresses Little Finger.	G.H. Toed.	G.H. Toed.
1122. The Monte Carlo Mystery.	G.H. Toed.	Black Eagle.
1123. Who Is The Man?		
1124. The Disguise Of Doom.		
1125. Condemned to the Lines.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1126. Mystery Of The Model.		
1127. Yellow Vengeance.		
1128. A Problem Of Proof.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1129. Man Who Won The Calcutta.	A. Skene.	Zonith.
1130. Case Of The Wandering Jew.	G.H. Toed.	Huxton Rymor.
1131. The Pauper Of Pengarth Castle.	G. Evans.	
1132. The Curse Of Pengarth Castle.	E.S. Brooks.	Waldo.
1133. Into The Unknown.	E.S. Brooks.	Waldo.
1134. Clue Of The Gold Filled Tooth.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1135. The Great Stadium Conention.	G. Chester.	
	E.S. Brooks.	Waldo.

THE UNION JACK for 1925 (continued).

1136. Case Of The Sheffield Sampler.
 1137. The Yellow City. R. Murray. Confederation
 1138. The Lift Shaft Mystery.
 1139. The Strange Affair Of The Lancel Register Grate. A. Skene. Zenith.
 1140. The Adventure Of The Engineer's Blue Print. G. Chester. The Halses.
 1141. The Kidnapped Correspondent. G.H. Tood. Plummer.
 1142. The Negative Alibi.
 1143. The Great Waxworks Mystery.
 1144. Blackmail!
 1145. The Affair Of The Walnut Desk.
 1146. The Scarecrow Clue.
 1147. The Adventure Of The Five Giants.
 1148. The Green Room. G.H. Tood. Yvonne.
 1149. Tinker's Secret. G.H. Tood. Yvonne/Nirvana.
 1150. The Loyalty of Nirvana. G.H. Tood. ditto.
 1151. The Million Pound Double.
 1152. The Strange Case Of The Willow Pattern Plate.
 1153. The Sign Of The Seracon.
 1154. Buried Alive. R. Murray. Confederation.
 1155. Moneward Bound. R. Murray. Confederation.
 1156. Vendetta. G.H. Tood. Nirvana.
 1157. Mrs. Bardolls Xmas Pudding. G. Evans. See end list.
 1158. Landed At Last. R. Murray. Confederation.
 1159. Nirvana's Secret, G.H. Tood. Nirvana.

1160.
THE UNION JACK for 1926.

1160. Affair Of The Crumpled Paper. A. Skene. Zenith.
 1161. Mystery of the Painted Slippers. Tood. Nirvana/Rymox.
 1162. Threads Of Fate. A. Skene.
 1163. Gone To Earth. R. Murray. Confederation.
 1164. Recco's Hold Up. R. Murray. Confederation.
 1165. North Of 70° R. Murray. Confederation.
 1166. The Lumber Looters.
 1167. Case Of The Missing Link. G. Evans. Splash Page.
 1168. Nirvana's Ordeal. G.H. Tood. Nirvana.
 1169. Case Of The Sexton Blake Bust. L. Jackson.
 1170. Case Of The Bovey Tar Baby. G.H. Tood. Black Eagle.
 1171. The Plant Of Prey. A. Skene. Zenith.
 1172. Clue Of The Cracked Footprint. G.H. Tood. Nuxton Rymox.

THE UTON JACK for 1926 (continued).

1173. Guns Is Guns.	G. Evans.	Ruff Hanson.
1174. Zenith Declares War.	A. Skone.	Zenith.
1175. Recco's Revengo.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1176. Twist Cup and Band.		
1177. Case Of The Stricken Outpost.	G. H. Tood.	Huxton Rymor.
1178. Mystery of the Masked Rider.	A. Skone.	Zenith.
1179. The House On Hathou.	G. Evans.	Podro.
1180. Pedro Takos Charge.	G. Evans.	Podro.
1181. Return Of Professor Kow.	A. Murray.	Prof: Kow.
1182. A Mystery in Motley.	A. Skone.	Zenith.
1183. Riddle Of Muddersfield Builder. Face Builder.		
1184. House of a 1000 Teeth.		
1185. Marriage Of Jason Recco.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1186. Case Of The Phantom Ferry.		
1187. Affair Of The Talking Apo.		
1188. Mystery Of The Mechanical Man.	A. Skone.	Zenith.
1189. Adventure of the Railway Raiders.	Chester.	The Miles.
1190. The Spectre of the Speedway.		
1191. Dirk Dolland's Crime.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1192. Secret of Shakespeares Skull.	G. Evans.	Ruff Hanson.
1193. Ruff Hanson Runs Amok.	G. Evans.	Ruff Hanson.
1194. Mystery of the Man from Manila.	Tood.	
1195. 200 Ethons Down.	A. Murray.	Prof: Kow.
1196. The Great Round Up.	R. Murray.	Confederation.
1197. Case Of The Kirkton Coal King.		
1198. Mystery of Room No. 7.	G. H. Tood,	Hirvana.
1199. Case Of The Sheffield Ironmaster.	Tood,	Hirvana.
1200. Affair Of The Derelict Grange.	G. H. Tood.	Hirvana.
1201. Mystery Of The Venetian Palace.	Tood.	Hirvana.
1202. The Clue Of The Two Straws.	Tood.	Hirvana.
1203. A Mystery Of The Mountains.	Tood.	Hirvana.
1204. The Mysterious Affair of the Vanished Stones.		Kestrol.
1205. Problem Of The Gardners Cottage.	Jackson.	Kestrol.
1206. The Lord Of The Apo Men.	R. Murray.	Dr. Satira.
1207. The Mystery of the Masked Magician.	"	"
1208. The Adventure Of The Two Devils.	Tood.	Hirvana.
1209. From Information Received.	R. Murray.	Dr. Satira.
1210. Mrs. Birdoll's Xmas Eve.	G. Evans.	See below.

INDEX Ref 1105 featured Yvonne, Rymor and Plummer.
 1157. featured Splash Page and usual Evans
 characters. Same applies to No. 1210 above.