# nniness, G.O.D.

capitalist, hires

and youth to the Merrified man-

big Merrifield party the butler cipated though." announces a jewel robbery. CHAPTER SIXTEEN

"Something was bound to happen! Gayle murmered that more on. "Captain Bayne and another "It was all too perfect."

fortingly.

"Take it easy," he counseled. Graham took them to distracted guests named Tway, young mar- Bill put in. rieds who had been invited by Bill himself.

ed tone. "What is it?" "Margie's bracelet-some body headquarters identified her.

lifted it! Match bracelet." "The one daddy gave me for a in the mansion?" Gayle demand-

Tways face was a tsudy in mis-

"I left it in the bathroom," Marsie Tway said. "I remember taking it off to wash my hands—they got smudged on "For Pete's sake couldn't your Gayle. A play is ready for the stage. People have fallen in love. And now a robbery!"

Gayle, dancing with him and

looked to see the time. I didn't and the bracelet in his posseshave it on, and-' Her young husband picked up The captain smiled.

the conversation, nervously. "She "Not without some sort of proof, ran to look for it, but it was gone. mister. He wouldn't have any She asked the maid, but the maid bracelet in his possession now. Too hadn't seen it. And the butler smart for that. Anyway-he's not

"That east bawth, Miss Gayle, ma'am, was reserved for the young ed anew. ladies as you ordered, miss," Gra "Now, ham put in. "It is all most distressing!

"Yes, Graham. Oh, dear!" Nobody had entered the large blue-tiled bath in the east wing. second floor, save the women. The new maid Maudie had been told by Graham to keep tactful watch on it, guiding feminine guests there seeing that pins and lipsticks and rouge and powder and any other little necessities were supplied. If Mrs. Tway had left her braceletwatch there at 9 p.m. and remembered it after 11, any one of 50 or more girls might have picked it

"Mr. Merrifield has retired," Graham stated to the group now in conference, "but if you think best, Mis Gayle-" "No, Oh, no, don't disturb him

with it until we have to, Graham!"
"It was insured," Mrs. Tway said. "But naturally I hate to-"Of course, dear," Gayle turned to her. "And it spoils your enjoyment of the party, too, as well as our own, to think that a thief-I am all confused by it." Bill Bailey spoke then.

"Goyle, lets interview that maid. She's new. The Maudie person.

Maudie was brought quietly into the conference. Dance music was playing in the big rooms and gaiety reigned there still, but these few heard none of it. Maudie surprised them by speaking first.

"It is best that I introduce myself again, Miss Dixon," she said. "I knew you would call me. My name is not Maudie, really. I am not a professional maid.'

"But-but-" "I know. I'm sorry about it all, but the truth is I'm a police-woman. My name is Holmquist, and the city detective bureau put me

here." 'I SAY!" Graham exclaimed

"Naturally you won't understand here. We know the setup here at THE CHARACTERS:

Miss Dixon, and Mr. Bailey, but—
BENJAMIN MERRIFIELD, aged well, the department knew you had knows her business, you under a criminal in The Oaks. This is a stand-and we know all about you GAYLE DIXON to make love to his grandson, millionaire's home. The portable and Bailey. So don't be alarmed silver alone is worth a fortune And you people who lost the brace-JEREMY TUCKER, a shy student And there is jewelry, and excellent let just sit tight and say nothing. possibilities of money theft. We You, too, butler. All of you go right BILL BAILEY and six pretty girls quietly arranged for your maid ahead for help or until we reare employed to help bring life celeste, to get a better job some-port. Don't be too upset."

Celeste, to get a better job some-port. Don't be too upset."

Graham

"It's most irregular!"

Graham

YESTERDAY: At the height of the thief moved quicker than we anti-

Bailey. "I suggest now that you telepone headquarters," the maid went to come to the service entrancewould not help us at all."

"That's true. That's very true!" Bill did the telephoning, and within 20 minutes everything the "Dick!" Bill exclaimed in guard- maid-detective had said was prov-

ed true. That is, the men from "But whoever did you see here Merrifield's wnat ad."

"We'll find it if—tell us every- ing, Miss," the detective captain so. Jeremy's shell has been pried thing!" Gayle demanded that. The explained. "It's a protective move. open. Society has been revived at four, plus Graham, were alone in We'd rather not mention taoaoi The Oaks. You dance beautifully,

"For Pete's sake, couldn't you smiling at guests and friends, angot smudged on our car door—
walk up to the thief and accuse swered only one part of his ramhim? If he has a criminal record bling conversation.

sion-"

a he. It's a female. "Oh, dear!" Gayle was distress-

"Now, miss, you're in charge

EARTH'S CRUST

NEED MOVE BUT

ONE

UNDREDTH

SIXTEEN-

OF AN INCH

TO BE

FELT!

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

hoped to avoid disturbing you. The lamented. "Most!"

"Isn't it!" the captain grinned at him. "But you're in the clear, my "Christopher!" breathed Bill friend. You're practically a member of the Merrifield family. Stay right on the job here, and wait." And there the matter stood.

They talked for a quarter-hour to herself than to the others as will come out to verify what I say more, mostly apologizing to the they hurried back to the house. It might be as well to ask them guests who suffered the loss, and who went home now; but in the Bill squeezed her elbow, com- if you want to avoid disturbing end everybody was pledged to seyour other guests. A hullabaloo crecy and Gayle and Bill went back to the ballrooms.

"Wipe off the gloom," Bill counseled. "People will see."

"Whew!" Gayle breathed. "Me, too. This job gets more interesting every day.'

"I expected to be a secretary or something when I answered Mr.

"I surely didn't expect all this!" wedding present Bill!" Mrs. ed. still appalled at that thought.

Tways face was a tsudy in mis"Who would be a thief?"

Bill grinned. "A lot has happened."

. . . let's dance . . . more than I . . let's dance . . . more than I

"What people have fallen in love, Bill?" "Oh-me."

"You?"

"Sure."

"Well, tell me! Or I shall tsamp on your toe, Bill Bailey!" "Don't. Not with that sharp heel. Anyway, it's none of your busi-

(Continued on Page Eleven)

SPIDERS

HAVE FROM

TWO TO EIGHT

EYES,

DEPENDING ON THE

SPECIES.

By William

Ferguson

## OUT OUR WAY



## By J. R. Williams OUR BOARDING HOUSE . . with . . . Major Hoonle AWG! --- FOFF! --- GOK! --- WHAT IN BOY, CAN HE HEAVEN'S NAME HAPPENED ? --- WHY, I'M RIDE! HE TWIRLS STOPPING! THE LAST I RECALL, I WAS THAT BIKE LIKE GOING DOWNHILL AT A TERRIFIC RATE! A LARIAT! EGAD, I FEEL DIZZY! WHERE AM I

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE









I T'S NOT THE

FIRST TIME YOU EVER

REVERSED YOURSELF, MAJOR =

WASH TUBBS

The Plotters

On The Up And Up



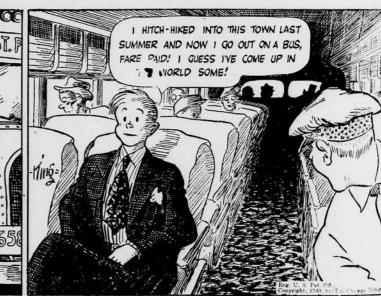




GASOLINE ALLEY

BOY, I THOUGHT THE DAY AND HOUR WOULD NEVER ARRIVE!





BELA LANAN—COURT REPORTER

'I SAY!" Graham exclaimed that. The others were just staring. ANSWER: "Spring Song," "In the Good Old Summer tumn in Paris," and "Winter Wonderland." By L. Allen Heine





NAME THE SEASONS

BY GIVING FOUR

song titles



THE GUMPS

NEVE GOT TO STOP WRRY, AIN'T YA EM! SHE HAS TO HAVE A CEREMONY BEFITTING HER RANK! I'VE ALREADY TIPPED OFF THE NEWSREEL WHERE'S THE





