

# Bull-Dog Drummond

The Adventures of a Dismounted Officer Who Found Peace Dull

by CYRIL McNEIL

Illustrations by ERWIN HAYES

"They're here, Mr. Sam Dan." In the green light the Indian's con- sidering eyes scanned round the group of the team.



"Did I Not Say That There Was Power in the Box?" He Said Dreamily.

pearls till the light has burned low in the brazier. If you do they will disappear—never to return. Watch, but do not touch!"

Slowly he backed toward the window, unperceived in the general excitement; and Hugh dodged rapidly toward the car. It struck him that the seance was over, and he just had time to see Lakington snatch something which appeared to have been left down by a string from above, before turning into the bushes and racing for the car. As it was he was only a second or two in front of the other, and the last vision he had through a break in the trees, before they were spinning smoothly down the deserted road, was an open window in Laidley Towers from which dense volumes of vapor poured steadily out. Of the house party behind, waiting for the light to burn low in the brazier, he could see no sign through the opaque wall of green fog.

It took five minutes, so he gathered afterward from a member of the house party, before the light had burned sufficiently low for the duchess to consider it safe to touch the pearls.

In various stages of asphyxiation the assembled guests had peered at the box, while the cynical comments of the men were rightly treated by the ladies with the contempt they deserved. Was the necklace not there, wrapped in its gold and silver tissue, where a few minutes before there had been nothing?

"Some trick of that beastly light," remarked the duke peevishly. "For heaven's sake throw the dam' thing out of the window."

"Don't be a fool, John," retorted his spouse. "If you could do this sort of thing, the house of lords might be some use to somebody."

When two minutes later they stared horror-struck at a row of ordinary marbles laboriously unwrapped from a piece of gold and silver tissue, the duke's pungent agreement with his wife's sentiment passed uncontradicted. In fact, it is to be understood that over the scene which followed it was best to draw a decent veil.

### THREE.

Drummond, hunched low over the wheel, in his endeavor to conceal his identity from the man behind, knew nothing of that at the time. And Lakington was far too busy to bother with the chauffeur.

One snarling curse as they had started, for not having done as he had been told, was the total of their conversation during the trip. During the rest of the time the transformation to the normal kept Lakington busy, and Hugh could see him reflected in the wind-screen removing the make-up from his face, and changing his clothes.

Even now he was not quite clear how the trick had been worked. That there had been two cabinets, that was clear—one false, the other the real one. That they had been changed at the crucial moment by the girl Irma

was also obvious. But how had the pearls disappeared in the first case, and then apparently reappeared again? For one thing he was quite certain. Whatever was inside the parcel of gold and silver tissue which, for all he knew, they might be still starting at, it was not the historic necklace.

And he was still puzzling it over in his mind when the car swung into the drive at The Elms.

"Change the wheels as usual," snapped Lakington as he got out, and Hugh bent forward to conceal his face.

"Then report to me in the central room."

And out of the corner of his eye Hugh watched him enter the house with the Chinese cabinet draped in his hand.

"Toby," he remarked to that worthy, whom he found momentarily eating a ham sandwich in the garage, "Let's go on the roof."

Silently they both climbed the ladder which had been placed in readiness, to find Peter Darrell and the American detective already in position. A brilliant light streamed out through the glass dome, and the inside of the central room was clearly visible. In the three chairs sat the motionless, bound figures so swathed in rope that only the tops of their heads were visible, just as Lakington had left him and Toby and Algy earlier in the evening. The only moving thing in the room was the criminal himself, and at the moment he was seated at the table with the Chinese cabinet in front of him. With a quick turn of his wrist he pried open two flaps of wood, and folded them back against the side. Then he lifted out a parcel of gold and silver tissue from underneath.

"My hat!" muttered Hugh, "what a fool I was not to think of it! Just a false bottom actuated by closing the lid."

But the American, whistling gently to himself, had his eyes fixed on the rope of wonderful pearls which Lakington was holding lovingly in his hands.

"So easy, you scum," contended Lakington, "and you thought to pit yourselves against me"—he rose and stood in front of the chair where he had last left Drummond. "That fool of a chauffeur failed to carry out my orders, and create a diversion. You will see what happens to people who fail to carry out my orders, in a minute. And after that you'll never see anything again."

"Say, he's a dream—that guy," muttered the American. "What pearls are those he's got?"

The duchess of Hampshire's, whispered Hugh. "Lifted right under the nose of the whole bally house party."

The four watchers on the roof gazed their eyes to the glass. And the sight they saw a moment or two afterward stirred even the plegmatic Mr. Green.

A heavy door was swinging slowly open, apparently of its own volition, though Hugh, stealing a quick glance at Lakington, saw that he was pressing some small studs in a niche in one of the walls. Then he looked back at the door, and stared dumfounded. It was the mysterious cupboard of which Phyllis had spoken to him, but nothing he had imagined from her words had prepared him for the reality. It seemed to be literally crammed to overflowing with the most priceless loot. Gold vessels of fantastic and beautiful shapes littered the floor; while on the shelves were arranged the most wonderful collection of precious stones, which shone and scintillated in the electric light till their glitter almost blinded the watchers.

The pearls were carefully placed in a position of honor, and for a few moments Lakington stood gloating over his collection.

"Do you see them, Captain Drummond?" he asked quietly. "Each thing obtained by my brain—my hands. All mine—mine!" His voice rose to a shout, "And you pit your puny wits against me." With a laugh he crossed the room, and once more pressed the studs. The door swung slowly to and closed without a sound, while Lakington still shook with silent mirth.

"And now"—he resumed, rubbing his hands—"we will prepare your bath, Captain Drummond. And while it is getting ready, we will just deal with the chauffeur who neglected his orders."

For a few minutes he bent over the chemicals, and then he poured the mixture into the water which half filled the long bath at the end of the room. "About five minutes before we're quite ready," he announced. "Just time for the chauffeur."

He went to a speaking-tube, down which he blew. Somewhat naturally there was no answer, and Lakington frowned.

"A stupid fellow," he remarked softly. "But there is no hurry; I will deal with him later."

Lakington returned to the chair which contained, as he thought, his chief enemy, and was standing beside it with an unholy joy shining on his face.

"And since I have to deal with him later, Captain Drummond, D. S. O., M. C., I may as well deal with you now. Then it will be your friends' turn. I am going to cut the ropes, and carry you, while you're so numbbed that you can't move, to the bath. Then I shall drop you in, Captain Drummond, and when, afterward, you pray for death, I shall mercifully spare your life—for a while."

He slushed at the ropes behind the chair, and the four men craned forward expectantly.

"There," snarled Lakington. "I'm ready for you, you young swine."

And even as he spoke, the words

died away on his lips, and with a dreadful cry he sprang back. For with a dull, heavy thud the body of the dead German Heinrich rolled off the chair and sprawled at his feet.

"My God!" screamed Lakington. "What has happened? I—I—"

He rushed to the bell and pealed it frantically, and with a smile of joy Hugh watched his frenzied terror. No one came in answer to the ring, and Lakington dashed to the door, only to reveal into the room with a choking noise in his throat. Outside in the hall stood four masked men, each with a revolver pointing at his heart.

"My gun," muttered Hugh. "And you understand, fellows, don't you?—let's my meat."

The next moment he had clumped passed down the ladder, and the three remaining watchers stared motionless at the grim scene. For Lakington had shut the door and was cowering by the table, his nerve utterly gone. And all the while the puffed, bleated body of the German sprawled on the floor.

Slowly the door into the hall opened, and with a scream of fear Lakington sprang back. Standing in the doorway was Hugh Drummond, and his face was grim and merciless.

"You sent for your chauffeur, Henry Lakington," he remarked quietly. "I am here."

"What do you mean?" muttered Lakington thickly.

"I drove you back from Laidley Towers—tonight," said Hugh with a slight smile. "The proper man was foolish and had to be killed."—He advanced a few steps into the room, and the other shrank back. "You look frightened, Henry. Can it be that the young swine's wits are, after all, better than yours?"

"What do you want?" gasped Lakington, through dry lips.

"I want you, Henry—just you. Hitherto you've always used gangs of your ruffians against me. Now my gang occupies this house. But I'm not going to use them. It's going to be just—you and I. Stand up, Henry; stand up—as I have always stood up to you." He crossed the room and stood in front of the cowering man.

"Take half—take half," he screamed. "I've got treasure—I've . . ."

And Drummond hit him a fearful blow on the mouth.

"I shall take all, Henry, to return to their rightful owners. Boys"—he raised his voice—"carry out these other two—and undo them."

**Piles Cured in 5 to 14 Days**  
Disappears without money. If PIAZO DISTRICT has in cure itching, Itching, Bleeding or Protruding Piles, instantly relieves itching, Itching, and you can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 50c.

What stunned those delegates, probably, was the proposition to prevent war by agreeing to scrap—Manila Bulletin.

You have to be an old man before you believe a fellow ought to work and save while young.

Subscribe to The Franklin Times  
When Your Farm Stock Is Sick, Look For Rats.

Disease among farm animals don't just happen. Rats are carriers of dangerous plagues—hog cholera, foot and mouth disease and that terrible of all scourges—Bubonic plague. Farmers should throw around premises RAT-SNAP. It's sure and safe. Three sizes, 35c, 65c, 1.25. Sold and guaranteed by Allen Bros. Co. and Aycooke Drug Co.

## TUCKER'S CAFE

Main Street  
LOUISBURG, N. C.

I have just opened a first class Cafe in the old Neal building and am prepared to furnish meals at all hours, and the best the market affords.

Ice Cream 5 cents a cone.  
Soft Drinks, etc.

Prices reasonable, service the best.

J. C. TUCKER  
Proprietor

### To Stop a Cough Quick

take HAYES' HEALING HONEY, a cough medicine which stops the cough by healing the inflamed and irritated tissues.

A box of GROVE'S O-PEN-TRATE SALVE for Chest Colds, Head Colds and Croup is enclosed with every bottle of HAYES' HEALING HONEY. The salve should be rubbed on the chest and throat of children suffering from a Cold or Croup.

The healing effect of Hayes' Healing Honey inside the throat combined with the healing effect of Grove's O-Pen-Trade Salve through the pores of the skin soon stops a cough.

Each medicine is packed in one carton and the cost of the combined treatment is 50c.

Just ask your druggist for HAYES' HEALING HONEY.

# First Big Auction Sale Of the Season

Beginning on Saturday afternoon, February 11th, at 2 o'clock, we will conduct an Auction Sale at our Store and you can buy at your own price, anything that is offered, and we expect to offer some of the most necessary and desirable articles we have in stock.

Don't forget, but come and buy what you want at your price.

## C. C. HUDSON CO.

(WIDE-AWAKE MERCHANT)

LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA

### Hastings' Seeds 1922 Catalog Free

It's ready now. 100 handsomely illustrated pages of worth-while seed and garden news for Southern gardeners and farmers. This new catalog, we believe, is the most valuable seed book ever published. It contains 100 full pages of the most popular vegetables, flowers and farm crop plants, the finest work of its kind ever attempted.

With our photographic illustrations and color pictures also from photographs, we show you just what you can grow with Hastings' Seeds even before you order the seeds. Our catalog makes garden and flower bed planning easy and it should be in every single Southern home. Write us a post-card for it, giving your name and address. It will come to you by return mail and you will be mighty glad you've got it.

Hastings' Seeds are the Standard of the South, and the largest mail order seed house in the world is back of them. They've got to be the best. Write now for the 1922 catalog. It is absolutely free.

H. G. HASTINGS CO., SEEDSMEN, ATLANTA, GA.

### TAKE NOTICE

By virtue of power in a deed of trust executed by W. E. Kearney, July 12th 1920, of Record in Franklin County in book 232 at page 48 I will sell at the courthouse door in Henderson, N. C., on Monday, Feb. 20th, 1922, at twelve o'clock, to the highest bidder for cash the three tracts of land therein described, being located in Vance and Franklin counties adjoining the lands of William Dickerson, W. H. Smith, Fanny Stainback, June Smith and J. W. Hedgepeth containing jointly 59.35 acres, see deeds recorded book 229 page 302, Franklin County.

This 16th day of January, 1922.  
1-20-5t J. C. KITTRELL, Trustee.

No Worms in a Healthy Child  
All children troubled with Worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a General Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Worms will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the CHILD will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

### RAY'S BUILDING MATERIAL

It Pays To Get It At  
**RAY'S**  
Quality—Price—Service

### SALE OF LAND

Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in that deed of trust executed by H. B. Cooke and wife to Ben T. Holden, Trustee on the 24th day of January 1920, which is duly recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Franklin County in Book 234 page 46, default having been made in the payment of the note secured thereby and demand made upon me by the holders to foreclose in accordance with the terms and provisions therein, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the Courthouse door in Franklin County, on

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1922 at 12 o'clock M. that tract or parcel of land situate in Franklin Township, Franklin County, North Carolina and described as follows:

Bounded on the North by the lands of I. H. Kearney (formerly Mrs. Ellen Pearce) on the East by the Seaboard Air Line Railway, on the South by the estate of George Winston dec'd, and on the West by I. H. Kearney (formerly S. C. Blackley) containing 125 acres more or less and being the lands owned by Anthony Cooke dec'd at the time of his death. The said H. B. Cooke being a son and heir at law of the said Anthony Cooke dec'd and as such is the owner and entitled to a one-ninth (1-9) undivided interest in and to said lands.

This the 15th day of Jan. 1922.  
1-20-5t BEN T. HOLDEN, Trustee.

### Louisburg Repair Shop

J. LEHMAN, Proprietor  
Next Door to J. W. Perry, Under Ford's Warehouse  
LOUISBURG, N. C.

We repair Shoes and Harness in the best workmanlike manner. We have with us Mr. J. R. Gault, of Richmond, who is an expert in his line.

Just received one hundred and three pairs Army and Navy Shoes, made for Uncle Sam at \$2.00 per pair. Five pairs for \$9.99. Hurry! Run! Come and get them while they last.

We specialize in repairing ladies and gent's fine shoes.

LOUISBURG REPAIR SHOP  
Julius Lehman, Proprietor

## We Have a Complete Line of Valentines

Prices From 1-2 to 35 Cents.

Do not disappoint your boy or girl friend on

### ST. VALENTINES DAY

February 14, 1922

S. P. BODDIE, RECEIVER.

## Aycooke Drug Co.