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tising Medium.

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HRISTMAS in Washington is

not altogether like the northern holiday, even though there be snow on the Potomac hills and in the low lying valley of the river itself. Here on the sunny slope of the White House lawn dandelion and the heartsease are Christmas blossomers, while the hepatica not infrequently shows itself white and blue to the sun on the banks confining Rock Creek. Christmas is a particularly

genial season in Washington. There is enough of the southern atmosphere in the capital to ? make the holiday partake of the nature of the Christmas of the further south, for the natal day of Christ always has been given warm and exulting recognition in the country south of the Mason and Dixon line.

There are children in the White House at this holiday season as there were all through the administration of Mr. Taft's predecessor in office, Theodore Roosevelt. The president has three children at home with him to enjoy the holiday festivities in the House of State. It is true that of the three children one is just entering manhood and the other womanhood, while the third is just out of knickerbockers. Robert Taft, the president's oldest son, is home from college for the season's merrymaking, and his sister, Helen, is here also for the gayeties of the younger set. "Charlie" Taft has not outgrown the Christmas tree age and a Christmas tree he will have.

During the seven years of the Roosevelt administration, although there were five children in the White House, there was a Christmas tree only once. Mr. Roosevelt did not like the Christmas tree idea because he is a great believer in the conservation of the forests of the country, and he held that the Christmas tree trade worked havoc with the supply of evergreens. So it was that while Christmas in the White House during his term of office was all that the holiday otherwise should be, the children were not allowed a tree. The youngest Roosevelt boy, however, had Christmas tree views of his own and once he secured one, trimmed it in seclusion, and 'hen hid it away in a closet where it was not discovered by his father, the president, until the Christmas season had pretty well waned.





NO MAN'S * LAND & ROMANCE BUS LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE ILLUSTRATIONS BY TRAY WATTERS COPYANCHT. INA BY LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE COPYRICHT, 1910 BY LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE

> have traversed much of the known world, only to come to that conclu-

Garrett: Coast, a young man of New York City, meets Douglas Blackstock, who Invites him to a card party. He accepts, although he dislikes Blackstock, the rea-son being that both are in love with Kath-rine Thaxter. Coast fails to convince her that Blackstock is unworthy of her friendship. At the party Coast meets two named Dundas and Van Tuyl. There is a quarrel, and Blackstock shoots Van Tuyl dead. Coast struggles to wrest the weapon from him, thus the police dis-omer them. Coast is arrested for murder. He is convicted, but as he begins his sen-tence. Dufidas names Blackstock as the murderer and kills himself. Coast be-comes free, Dut Blackstock has married Katherine Thaxter and fied. Coast pur-chases s yacht and while saling seesa man thrown from a distant boat. CHAPTER V.

SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER V.

wift alternation upon his face, as the mance there. . . . So at length Echo courtesied to the morning you find me turning in despair to the breeze, Coast awakened. Seven Seas; afloat, at all events, one For a moment almost thoughtless must of necessity pursue the glamorhe lay drowsily enjoying the rise and ous promise of the Unknown that lurks just down the horizon."

of a faint thrill of excitement; most-Appleyard paused, his mien subly comparable, perhaps, to the first dued, his gesture bespeaking resignawaking sensations of a fourteention. year-old boy on a Fourth of July "All of which means-?" Coast in-

morning. sisted. Then without warning the small "I hardly know. Frankly, I thought chronometer on the transverse above that speech rather stupid myself.

his head rapped out smartly two dou-That's why I chopped it off. ble-chimes-ships' time: four bells: ten o'clock in the forenoon. ticed?" Astonished, he sat up quickly, and

his still sleepy gaze, passing through the companionway, encountered the amused regard of the sol-disant Melchisedec Appleyard. Promptly Coast found himself in full possession of his faculties. That in obedience to first instincts he nodded with a cordial

smile, was significant. Applevard returned the salutation with a quick bob of his small head. "Good-morning, hero!" he sang out cheerfully.

He sat in the cockpit, huddled into the folds of a gray blanket, volumincus for his slight figure, a thin but wiry forearm bared to wield the cigof supplying the enorarette he was smoking with every inmous District trade.

dication of enjoyment. The Central and South

"To resume: My detection fully. promptly ensued and my presence was dispensed with, a trace unceremoniously, perhaps, but no doubt very properly from the skipper's point of view. With the subsequent phases of this most delectable adventure you are familiar; therefore, I confidently assume your concurrence with my conclusion; which is-here am I. . . Now," he wound up, inclining his head at an angle, and favoring Coast with a frankly speculative stare, "what are you going to do with me?" Coast opened his eyes wide, with a

lift of his brows. "I don't know that contemplate doing anything with you, Mr. Appleyard.' "It's not yet too late for the amende

courteous," suggested his guest. "I'll gladly set you ashore-" "Pardon, but that's precisely what don't want you to do." "But-'

"A moment's patience, sir. The Echo lacks a crew: I offer my services unanimously in that capacity." "But I don't want a crew."

"Oh, don't say that!" "And I have no need of one." Appleyard lifted both hands and let them fall with a gesture of despair. "Infatuated man!" he murmured, regarding Coast with commiseration.

'Why infatuated?' "What do you know of these waters?" the little man counterquestioned sharply.

"Little," Coast was obliged to admit; "or nothing, if you insist." "And yet you say you don't need a crew!"

"But, my dear man, I do know how to sail a boat; and with a copy of the Coast Pilot, charts, a compass and common-sense-" "You may possibly escape piling her

up the first day out-granted. On the One talks. . . . You may have no other hand, I happen to be intimate with these waters; I can pilot you

"I have," said Coast drily. safely whither you will: I can afford "You would, naturally," returned you infinite assistance with the heavy Appleyard without resentment. "But | work-it's no joke, at times, for one would it amuse you to learn how 1 man to have all the handling of a



Miss Katie Sharp, a Daring Big Game Hunter, Splendid Horsewoman and a Dead Shot With a Rifle.

Dauntless Girl Hunter of the Tex-

as Border.

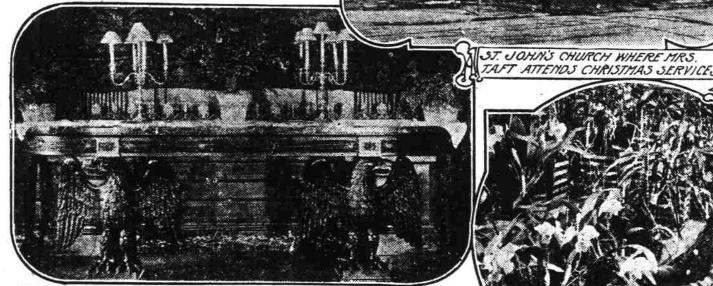
Houston, Tex .- One of the mes daring and dauntless big game hunters in the upper Rio Grande border region of Texas is Miss Katie Sharp, of Sanderson. She is a splendid shot with rifle and revolver and is the equal of any cowboy horsewomanship. She has gone on many hunting expeditions into the Santa Rosa mountains of Mexico where bears, deer and other wild animals abound. She has in her home many trophies of the chase. among them being the skins of several large black bears that she killed. On a bear hunting trip into Mexico, last winter, she had a narrow escape from being badly injured, or possibly killed, by a bear which she had wounded. She encountered the antimal in a narrow canyon in the mountains and the two were within a dogen feet of each other before either was aware of the other's presence. Miss Sharp quickly brought the rifle that she carried to her shoulder and taking quick aim fired at the bear. The first shot went wild, but the second stopped the animal just as it was within almost reaching distance of Miss Sharp. With her hunting knife she put an end to the struggle of the beast.

This intrepid huntress knows no such thing as fear. She frequently goes out alone into remote localities of the border region and bags deer and game birds. She knows all of the trails leading through the hills and rough country that rise along the Rio Grande and is also familiar with every locality of the rugged Santa Rosa mountains. Frequently on her hunting excursions she has tried the nerve



my probe; but the recent plague of Wall Street plays discouraged me, Sunlight and shadow playing in demonstrating there could be no Ro-

dip of the boat, as drowsily conscious



WHITE HOLISE SIDEBOARD FROM WHICH CHRISTMAS DINNER IS SERVED

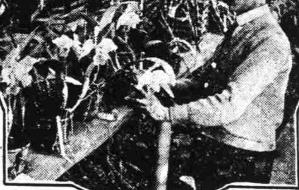
A Christmas tree hereafter probably will be in evi- each year, stand surdence at the White House at every holiday. Mr. prised. The Christmas Taft need have no scruples on account of "forest devastation," because Gifford Pinchot, formerly chief forester of the government, has said that Christmas trees enough can be cut to supply the market demand without threatening the future supply. Mr. Pinchot believes in saving the trees, and he would not have issued this statement without proper study of the situation. He did not give out his edict, however, until the Roosevelt family had left the executive mansion, and while the former chief forester is one of Colonel Roosevelt's intimate friends, it is probable that the Roosevelt children think that the verdict of Mr. Pinchot on the tree question ought not to have been so long celayed.

They play golf all winter in Washington, and if perchance there is snow on the ground they play the game with red balls instead of the ordinary white ones, and so when President Taft plays his holiday games he will not stand in any danger of forfeiting a stroke because of the loss of a golf ball. A red ball is a conspicuous mark against a white background.

Every employe of the White House receives a big Christmas turkey as a gift from the president and his wife. Some of the White House household servants and some of the members of the office force have been in the employment of presidents through many administrations. Col. William H. Crook, who is the executive clerk, has been in the service ever since Grant's day and recently he has written his reminiscences of White House life under eight presidents. Since the early Civil war days there have been children in the White House under nearly every administration, but whether or not there were children of the president's own families to gather about the fire and the Christmas tree, young people always found their way into the White House circle to help their elders

celebrate the holiday. Christmas parties for young people are always the regular order of things in the White House during the holiday season. The children of the cabinet officials, of the army and navy officers, of senators and representatives and of the diplomatists stationed here always are invited to a merrymaking in the big east room.

Christmas is the great day in the household of the ambassadors and ministers from foreign countries and in the families of the juniors of the different embassies and legations. The representatives of southern European governments and of the countries of Central and South America make much of Christmas. Not an embassy or a legation in this town but keeps open house virtually during the entire holiday season. Gift giving among foreigners represented here is carried to an extreme at which even Americans, who give gener- on every corner. The demand for flowers here at ously and are giving more generously and widely the Christmas season is such that notwithstanding



on Christmas day. They recognize that the holiday proper is essentially a home day, the day fine music, and the Christmas service and its enwhen the family likes to "be a party unto itself." So it is that the affairs to which society and society's children are bidden usually take place between Christmas and New Year's, although in every particular they are Christmas gatherings. For two weeks prior to the dawning of Christmas day the Washington markets are filled with holly and mistletoe. It is believed that before long the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia will be forced to pass laws protecting the beautiful holly tree from the hands of the despoiler. The demand for Christmas greens yearly kills hundreds if not thousands of holly trees. The trouble is that the men who cut the branches for the market use little or no discretion in securing their spoils. Holly branches can be cut without injury to the tree if the simplest precautions are taken, but in their greed to secure quantities of the beautiful boughs with their shining green leaves and polished red berries, the gatherers hack great limbs from the tree, injuring it so that in many cases it cannot survive the wound.

receptions and parties

given by the foreigners

are not given as a rule

The mistletoe, which is found in great quantities in the markets of Washington at the Christmas time, is a parasite which fastens itself upon the branches of many "pecies of trees. Its removal does the tree good, provided the limbs from which it springs are not injured in the cutting. The mistletoe of the Potomac river country is very much like the mistletoe of England. It is supposed that this parasite growth was used by the ancient Druids in their religious ceremonies among the ancient Britons. All kinds of superstitions are connected with the mistletoe, and many of them are traced back to the days before the Saxon occupation of John Bull's island. These superstitions were brought across the water by the early English settlers, and they are found in some parts of America in the same form in which they have existed in England for century on century.

The White House in a holiday season literally is turned into a conservatory. Washington loves flowers and every man and woman who comes here to live finds that the flower affection speedily takes its hold. The White House is supplied with flowers from a great conservatory carefully tended by men trained to floriculture. There are probably more flower shops in the capital in proportion to the population than in any other city in the United States. Almost literally they are

day in the year in their own lands, and they simget along without flowers in this northern cliing for 'em to dry.' mate. Their houses resemble conservatories all through the winter

months, but at the Christmas season the Spanish-American literally banks himself and his family with blossoms. President Taft attends Christmas service at All Souls Unitarian church. Mrs. Taft is an Episcopalian, and with her children she attends St. John's church on LaFayette square, known half humorously in Washington as the Church of State. It is so called because so many of the presidents of the United States have worshiped

nacities are accustomed

walls. St. John's is a SECTION OF WHITE HOUSE CONSEVATORY small church, but it has vironments are made as beautiful as it is possible to make them.

In the official foreign colony in Washington the Christmas holidays are an especially lively and joyous season. The managers of the American branch offices of the governments of the world are ever eager to show their patriotism and loyalty by observing all holidays or ceremonial occasions just as they would be observed if they were at home in their own countries. Consequently Christmas is the occasion for many diverse and picturesque celebrations in the homes of the official foreign colony. There is scarce a household in the cosmopolitan community that has not its quota of children. Many of the young people in these foreign households are, for the time being, attending American schools and have become imbued with some of the traditions of the Yankee Christmas. Thus the yule-tide programs in many a diplomatic home at Washington presents an odd mixture of foreign customs and American innovations.

Especially is this the case in the homes of many of the diplomats from South and Central America, where there are many young people. These Pan-American juveniles exchange presents as do their American playmates and await with keen anticipation the proverbial Christmas dinner, but they also show allegiance to the customs of their native lands by attending mass at midnight on Christmas Eve, and afterward paying homage at a miniature representation of the city of Bethlehem, the most conspicuous place in which is occupied by a grotto in which are tiny figures of the infant Jesus, and Joseph, together with the three wise men. In the homes of the Mexican diplomats there is followed a novel plan for the distribution of the Christmas presents. All the gifts are placed in a huge earthenware jar which is suspended from the ceiling and is then attacked by all the young people armed with canes. When the jar is broken the Christmas presents are precipitated to the floor and there is a mad scramble for the mysterious packages.

The handsome new home of the French Embassy at Washington will this year afford a spacious setting for a Christmas frolic that has become one of the important events of holiday week at the capital. At the German Embassy likewise there is a Christmas tree with tokens for all the young people in the Embassy circle, while the British Ambassador entertains all the members of his official staff and their families at an old-fashioned English Christmas dinner.

resolved to live down my shame. discovery until the morning. Unhap- but there's always the rosy glow of The Bethlehem of today may be turn of the Christmas season. That The Bethlehem of Today Thenceforward I set myself to pains- pily I, with the rest of the crew, was the lighted end to be seen and the Too Many Cohens. the great Convent of the Nativity and larger and may contain perhaps a few taking muckraking in modern life, routed out incontinently by an un- faint outline of the cloud of smoke in New York .- Asserting that the New other religious edifices, built to com- buildings of more modern construcseeking the compensating Romance mannerly brute with a belaying pin (at the air. There's no more fun in a York city directory contains 2,500 Even today, very much as at the Neither place nor people have under- memorate the commencement, in this tion than at the time of the birth of without which life were but death in all events it felt like a belaying-pin- sightless smoke than a saltless egg or Cohens and 1,000 Cohns and Cohans. Even today, very much as at the birth of the birth of the birth of the savior's birth, the keepers gone any startling change since the humble little place, of the earthly life the Savior, but to all intents and purlife." He paused and cocked an eye an instrument with which I am unac- a kiss upon your own hand. What's Eugene Cohen has just got permission of the flocks of sheep and goats sit Virgin Mary laid the infant Jesus to of the son of God, had not at the time poses it is the Bethlehem of Jesus's of Justice McCall in special term of silently and somnolently about in the rest in the manger of the stable in been erected, we need hardly state. infancy. It requires no great stretch at Coast. "Not bad for a beginning, quainted save through the literature the psychology of it? fields much as they were doing when, which, owing to the overcrowded con- but the style of buildings has changed of the imagination to people it again the supreme court legally to assume of the sea) and forced to go on deck what?" neids much as they were doing when, which, owing to the khan or rural inn, they but little since the Savior's time, and with the actors in the event of nine-"A little prolix." commented Coast to help heave anchor. . . Or dispassionately, falling in with his hu, should I say, 'weigh anchor?'" the name of Eugene Corwin. He said Smart Youth. "Tommy, what did you do with that | that he was constantly receiving gromore than nineteen nundred years unton of the man of the number of the substan- teen hundred years ago, while the as-""I'm not quarrelling with your penny I gave you for taking your med. cery and other bills intended for othago, the heavenly messenger appeared had been under which they were tial stone structures that line its nar- sociations impart to the ceremonies mor. "But continue. You found your to announce to them the fact that the forced to content themselves with row, hilly thoroughfares today were conducted in connection with its cele-Romance?" style," chuckled Coast. "Why not put icine?" er Cohens and that his telephone was the star appeared bright in the heav- such meager accommodations, are re- already standing there at the com- bration a solemnity and a sentiment "What is so-called-alas, yes! 1 off polishing your periods until an-"I bought a bun with one halfpenny, repeatedly ringing with calls for othstar appeared bright in the neaver such meager, with the re- mencement of the Christian era. that is peculiarly its own. found it. as a rule, a nom de guerre other time?" ma, and I gave Jimmy the other half or Cohens. Cohen, who becomes Cor. for crime. , . . Lured by legend, "Thank you," said Appleyard grate to drink the medicine for me." vin, was born in Missouri.

anxious.

"Good-morning," he returned. "How Americans who come to d'you feel after your adventure?" Washington in official ca-"Unclothed but in my right mind."

said Appleyard, with a twinkle of anxto outdoor flowers every lety amending: "to the best of my knowledge and belief." He indicated ply will not consent to | airly the various articles constituting his painfully simple wardrobe. "Wait-Appleyard hopped up, fingered his

everyday attire critically, and pronounced it bone-dry; then, bundling it up, he returned to the cabin, seating himself on the opposite transom to dress. "And the sensations of a hero, re-

freshed by sound slumbers, are-' "Hunger." said Coast. He moved forward and began to experiment gingerly with a new and untried alcohol stove. "I can offer you eggs, coffee, biscuit-and nothing else," he added, producing raw materials from a locker. "You see, I hadn't expected to entertain."

"Rotten inconsiderate of you," Appleyard grumbled. "I'll wire you a warning next time it occurs to me to drop in unexpectedly.'

Divided between amusement and perplexity, in the course of the meal Coast reviewed a personality singuregularly within its larly enriched by a variety of suggestions consistently negative. The man's age was indeterminable-some-

> Loosely summarized, he might have been anybody or nobody on a lark or his uppers. Appleyard looked up quickly, with a shy, humorous smile. "Well, what d'you make of me?"

you've made of yourself." "Flattery note," observed Apple- you with my determination to pursue pathy; sometimes I am moved to won- trackless ocean. Conceive, now, the der-really." He tapped an egg bitterness of the disappointment ed Coast, blankly, thoughtfully, a crinkle forming be- which o'erwhelmed my ardent soul tween his colorless eyebrows. "It's when I applied for a berth as a forereally not what a man makes of him- mast hand, only to be informed I was self; it's what his temperament does physically unfit, that, as one brutal to him."

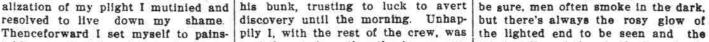
"Temperament!"

. . . And you blame yours time, for a few brief hours, I was per- | family enters the church the anthem "Oh! for what?" terity, in the final analysis, will ad- a fugitive moment I sipped the chalice headpiece clutched in the hand of the judge me a Romantic." "Literature?" asked Coast, aghast. neath my tongue." "Good Heavens, no! Nothing like Appleyard half closed his eyes and cause twenty minute, ago. In this

"Shall I rehearse to you the story of of beatific bliss. my life? No, I shall not rehearse to you the story of my life. But at all ures," Coast commented.

don't seriously object?" he added, a whim of Chance," he resumed, "as their grip, and the reckoning to be did not return children gave an alarm "Then compose yourself. Born at an early age-in fact, at as of that fishing smack, he being well Atlantic

early an age as you can comfortably under the influence of liquor; in a imagine-1 found myself immediately way of speaking, he'd looked too long the sport of sardonic fortunes. That upon the wine when it was red-eye name. Melchisedec! One felt that and half wood-alcohol. Craftly sim- man were compelled to puff a good clthere must be in one's future life some ulating a like condition, I plied him fur- gar with his eyes shut the operation mistook the meaning of the noises warmth of Romance to compensate ther and succeeded in learning the would lose its zest. A man who had and kept crawling still further from for that infamous ignominy. So la- name of his vessel and the fact that undergone a slight operation upon one belled any reasonable human should she was expected to sail with the of his eyes had to stay in a darkened another hole in the drain and caught logically have looked forward to sure morning tide-together with other de- room for a week with his optics bandegeneration into the American peas- tails that intrigued me. Then, leav- daged. After a few days his doctor ant of the New England magazine- ing the sodden wretch to sleep off his told him he could take a gentle smoke story type, sans brains, bowels, disgusting debauch. I caused myself if he liked. He jumped at the chance breadth, beauty. A born icoveclast, to be conveyed aboard the lugger-1 and to his amazement found it afford smeared with black mud he suffered however, as soon as I wakened to re- mean schooner-and stowed away in ed him not the slightest pleasure. To



"Thank You," Said Appleyard Gratefully.

where between thirty and forty-five. came to be on board that fisherman?" | craft of this size. I'm exceedingly had lived apart from his wife, Minnie "You mean how you came to be handy, small and inconspicuous, neat, Perhaps it would. a fairish cook, and 'normally quite overboard. . . . You're the best judge of that." "True." Appleyard accepted and never savage save when denied the each day more and more embittered

lighted a cigarette, frowning soberly. sweet consolation of continuous con-"It was," he began, "due principally versation. Finally, I'm a great bar-"It's hard enough to guess what to my fatal passion for this Romance gain."

thing, sir. I have already acquainted "What do you mean by that?" "I offer my valuable-nay, invaluyard obscurely. "Yet you win my sym- my quest of that shy spirit upon the able services, gratis, without pay." "But why do you do that?" demand-

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The Small Boy and His Hat. He flings his hat across the diningmate phrased it, I'd blow away in the room when he comes in from school,

first half-a-gale. . . . I give you or leaves it in all manner of places in "Yes; you really ought to keep one, my word, Mr. Coast, I've been stick- the house; in the coal bin, or on sistoo; they're all the rage just now- ing round this waterfront a whole ter's bureau. He loses it just at and such excellent excuses for the in- fortnight, vainly seeking nautical em- church time, and spoils the spirit of dulgence of your pet idiosyncrasies." ployment. Last night, for the first family reverence and piety. As the

mitted to flatter myself that fortune is being sung, and the disgrace of be-"For making me a-l presume pos- was on the point of favoring me. For ing late again is laid on the innocent of Romance and rolled its flavor be- small boy who has already forgotten the confusion of which he was the

that: Life." He sighed profoundly, smacked his lips, his expression one stage also one's hat is removed on the Shapperton-on-Thames Johnnie Wilway to school by the hand of one's bosom friend, passed down the line drain pipe. He expected to come out "You've a pretty taste in pleascosts I shall talk about myself for a Appleyard waved the interruption stuffed into others' pockets, while dire the place and becoming confused as space: I insist upon it: I love to. You aside. "It came about largely through thoughts of ultimate loss hold one in to directions kept on crawling. As he all true adventure must. Quite by ac- paid at home wraps the world in and a searching party set to work at

> Dark Smoke No Fun. Funny thing about smoking! If a



and endurance of seasoned and long experienced men at the game. She is well known all through that region and is popular among the ranch people as well as those of the towns. She is given the sobriquet of the Diana of

WIFE'S CURSE WAS ON HIM

Husband, Who Deserted Her, Stricken by Paralysis as Dying Woman Had Wished.

Cincinnati, O .- The wish of a dying woman that her husband might be paralyzed if he attended her funeral, came true. William Huesman of this city is the victim.

Although nearly seventy, and the father of several grown children, he Huesman, his junior by only a few years. As the years of their separapleasant to be thrown amongst- tion extended, Mrs. Huesman became against her husband. Time and again she declared that she hoped that when she died he might become paralyzed on the way to the cemetery if he tried

to go to the funeral. Immediately after her death the husband was notified and, forgetting the past, tried to atone by seeing that his wife received proper burial. He provided a coffin for the body and next day he was on his way to the cemetery when he suddenly collapsed on the street.

"Paralysis," said the hospital physician. Huesman is not expected to re-COVer.

CHILD GETS LOST IN DRAIN

Confused in the Darkness Boy of Six Crawls 80 Feet From the Opening.

London, England .- While playing with some boys near his home at son, aged six years, crawled into a

of surrounding boon companions, at a joint ten feet away, but missed once. They dug to the drain pipe, ten feet from the opening. Johnnie was not there.

At some distance from the opening they dug another hole, ten feet in depth. Johnnie heard the picks and safety. Finally at 80 feet they made Johnnie by the feet just as he was crawling past.

The lad had been in the 12-inch pipe for five hours, but aside from being no ill effects from the experience.

cident I fell in with one of the crew 'tragedy.-George L. Parker, in the