

Detective Fiction

THE BODY ON THE FLOOR *by Nancy Barr Mavity* (DOUBLEDAY, DORAN. \$2.00)

NEWSPAPER reporter Peter Piper, who solved the Tule Marsh Murder case early this year, is assigned to a "suicide" case, and by psychological hunches plus considerable ingenuity shows that Mrs. Asbury did not kill herself. He ignores the verdict of the great criminologist engaged by the defence, and by strategy proves to the satisfaction of all concerned that even an expert in logic can make an error.

THE C. I. D. OF DEXTER DRAKE *by Elsa Barker* (SEARS. \$2.00)

THESE twelve episodes of Dexter Drake, international detective, are the reminiscences of his assistant, Paul Howard. He reviews some of the most interesting and prominent cases in which his principal stepped in and succeeded where the police had failed. Those familiar with Drake's solution of the Cobra Candlestick case last year will be keenly interested in his newest exploits.

TRIPLE MURDER *by Carolyn Wells* (LIPPINCOTT. \$2.00)

MAXWELL GARNETT's third wife is killed as mysteriously as his first two, causing unpleasant comment and police interference at a summer resort near New York. At the request of Garnett and his brother, Fleming Stone, keen criminologist, is called in and finds not only Jean Garnett's murderer but once and for all breaks the chain of misfortune that has entangled the unlucky husband since his first marriage.

NICHOLAS GOADE, DETECTIVE *by E. Phillips Oppenheim* (LITTLE, BROWN. \$2.00)

AS THE renowned detective on a long holiday from Scotland Yard weaves his way across England in his battered Ford with a dog as his only companion, he finds his ever fertile mind running along in its usual channels. During his six months' leave he uncovers several mysteries that have baffled local police, and wins many

new friends. Entirely unconnected, these adventures of Goade are worked into a continuous story, and bear the Oppenheim stamp of effectiveness.

THE MURDER IN THE MOOR *by Thomas Kindon* (DUTTON. \$2.00)

WHEREIN "Pithecanthropoid" Smith, Scotland Yard sleuth, whose chief ambition was to avoid promotion, and thus obviate responsibility, goes for a walking tour across the moor. He stumbles upon the body of a murdered man in the fog, and instinctively sets to work—holiday be hanged!—to dig out the reasons for the crime. After several false starts he ably pieces together his puzzle and, hugging the joy of achievement to his heart but still determined to evade the rewards of efficiency, hands the credit over to Inspector-Detective Harford.

THE HANDS OF ORLAC *by Maurice Renard* (DUTTON. \$2.00)

STEPHEN ORLAC, famous French pianist and idol of music circles, is terribly injured in a railroad accident while returning to Paris from Nice. His hands are so badly lacerated that it is feared he will never play again, but Professor Cerral, a master of surgery, successfully performs an unheard-of operation. When M. Orlac recovers, his hands have lost their cunning, but more than that, a shadow hangs over him that presages tragedy. The sinister surgeon has given to his patient a tremendous power for evil that is overcome only after shocking events.

THE 5:18 MYSTERY *by J. Jefferson Farjeon* (DIAL PRESS. \$2.00)

FREDDY REEVE, on a holiday spree, takes the 5:18 train to Cromer and discovers, en route, many mysterious and suspicious happenings. His curiosity is aroused, and his admiration for a lovely young lady, apparently in distress, causes him to chase over the countryside on foot, on a bicycle, and finally in a powerful Citroën, to rescue her. In the course of events he liberates his lady and a child, collects several thousand pounds, kills a blackmailer or two and finally winds up to "Lohengrin". An amusing and satisfactory Farjeon mystery.

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