



"Anyhow, bud, paste this in your hat. You can't beat me with no dictaphones"

# Once Shy

A Short Short Story complete on this page

By F.R. Buckley

**A**CQUITTED of the charge of extorting money by means of threats, and escorted by four lesser members of the racketeering profession, Mr. One-Eye Pete Stanlaws was leaving the Criminal Courts building.

From across the rotunda, the young district attorney watched him go; listening meanwhile to the almost tearful complaints of Detective-Sergeant Mackey.

"I *tolja* what'd happen, Mr. Bell! I *tolja* we'd better hold Stone as a material witness. I *tolja* Big Bill would either bump him or run him outa the state—"

"M'm. Wonder which he did do?"

"I dunno an' I don't care! This was my case, sir, an' I had Stanlaws cold. You know I had. He couldn't ha' done better'n he did in Stone's office if he'd been deliverin' a lecture on racketeerin'. He did everything except bring Big Bill into it, an' the dictaphone girls got every word. Three weeks it took me, an' now it's all thrown out because there's nobody to swear it was Stanlaws speakin'!"

"That's the trouble with dictaphones—proving the speaker."

"But if you'd locked Stone up—"

"Well, never mind, Mackey. It's not really Stanlaws we're after."

"But it's Big Bill Wales I'm thinkin' of!" protested the detective. "You know how mouthy he is. He was kiddin' me right there in the court-room, an' then I seen him talkin' to the newspaper boys. Said he'd bring up our inefficiency in the Board of Aldermen. Our lives ain't gonna be worth livin' from now on. Gosh, Mr. Bell, why didn't you hold Stone?"

"I guess," said Mr. Bell, "it must have been pure ignorance. Good-by."

Serene and reflective, he ate lunch, returned to his office, and at three that afternoon was deep in papers dealing with the hold so illegally obtained by Alderman William Wales on the city's thirst and industry, when Mr. Wales himself was announced; an adipose gentleman who wheezed as he seated himself, and smiled with agate eyes.

"I'M SURPRISED at you," said the alderman. "I am indeed. When you turned down my idea for a little coöperation, says I to myself, 'Bill, be careful. The lad must be bright.' That's what I said. An' here I find you tryin'

to trip up one o' my boys with—a dictaphone. Oh dear! Oh dear me!"

He gurgled and flapped two fat hands.

"Why, I was beatin' them things when you was still in britches! Back when I was contractin' for the highways they tried the first one. Only both the operators lost their notes. Generally it's easier to get the identifyin' witness, though. Like in this case. Anyhow, bud, paste this in your hat. You can't beat me with no dictaphones. Nor with anything else. But especially not dictaphones. Oh dear me!"

"Well, admitting that—?" asked the district attorney.

Mr. Wales examined him.

"Well, I came up here to ride you a bit—just for your own good," he said, after thought, "you bein' so new in office. But it don't strike me you look quite as know-it-all as you did. Disillusioned about dictaphones, maybe. More inclined to listen to reason?"

"What reason?"

Mr. Wales rose ponderously; opened and closed both doors of the office; and returned to lean confidentially over the district attorney's desk.

"I said twenty-five thousand before;

but if you're over all this nonsense, I'll make it thirty—an' a cut if you'll lend a hand with the federals. Five per cent on the beer. An' I ain't askin' you for anything, anyway. You can't stop the rackets unless you stop me; an' there's nothin' you'll get me on, until you get a long way past dicta—"

Mr. Bell likewise arose.

"Except," he said, "attempting to bribe an officer in the execution of his duty. Serious charge for an alderman, though."

**H**E LIFTED a sheet of paper and exposed a small black disc. A harmless-looking little object; which yet produced an extraordinary effect on Mr. William Wales.

His eyes bulged; and his usually oleaginous voice became suddenly in urgent need of lubricant.

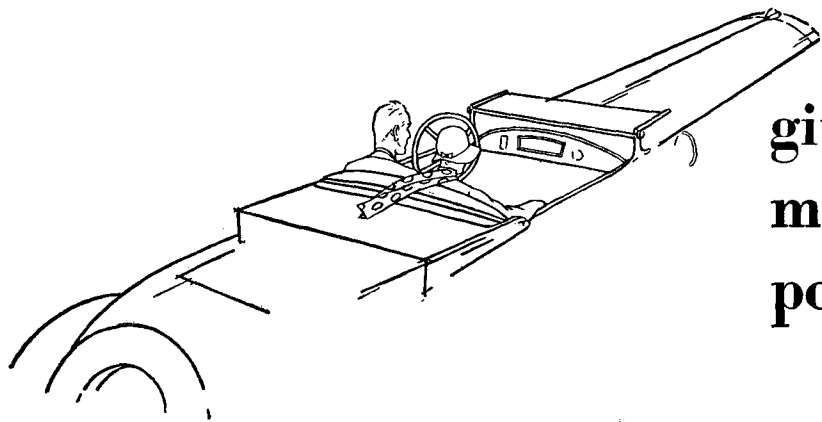
"What—what—"

"Oh, I thought you were familiar with them," said young Mr. Bell; and pressed a button. "That's a dictaphone. To two police stenographers. I'm the identification witness. I sort of thought you'd be up to crow about Stone. That's why I left him lying around loose."

A uniformed officer appeared in the doorway. The district attorney coughed, and with diffident finger indicated his visitor.

"Oh, Clancy—" he said.

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NAMES OF PASSENGER CARS	1929		1928		1927		1926	
	Engine	Engine	Engine	Engine	Engine	Engine	Engine	Engine
Auburn, 6-66.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
" 8-cyl.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
" other models	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Buick.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Cadillac.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Chandler Special Six	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
" other models	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Chevrolet.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Chrysler, 4-cyl.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
" Imperial.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A	A	A
" other models	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A	A	A
De Soto.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Dodge Brothers.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Durant.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Erskine.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Essex.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Ford, Model A.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A	A	A
" Model T.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Franklin.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
Gardner, 8-cyl.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
" other models	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
Graham-Paige.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
Hudson.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Hupmobile.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
La Salle.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
Marmon, 8-cyl.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
" other models	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
Moon.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Nash, Adv. & Sp. 6.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
" other models	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
Oakland.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
Packard.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	A
Peerless, 72, 90, 91	BB	A	BB	A	BB	A	BB	A
" other models	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Plymouth.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Pontiac.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Reo.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Stearns Knight, 6-80.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.
" other models	BB	A	BB	A	BB	A	BB	A
Studebaker.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.
Velie, 8-cyl.....	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	BB	Arc.	A	A
" 6-cyl.....	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.	A	Arc.

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# Twig Bending

By Grantland Rice

*Get 'em young, teach 'em right and you have future champ material. Mike Sweeney, who has trained thousands of boys, says it's all a matter of form*

**I**N THESE United States there are now something like eight or ten million young people between the ages of fourteen and eighteen who in no time at all will be directing the destinies of the nation.

Those of middle age and older are already set in their habits and beyond direction and development. But molding this younger generation is of great importance.

A big part of this building-up belongs to the province of sport, youth's instinctive element, where physical condition, mental alertness and character can all be handled effectively.

These youngsters want to be strong and healthy. They want to learn right. So to get the best information possible for their benefit I turned to Michael F. Sweeney, the famous director of the physical training department of The Hill School at Pottstown, Pa.

"Most preparatory-school boys," he said, "range from seventeen to eighteen years of age, an age of tremendous growth of bones, muscles and all the vital organs. Delicate adjustments of these organs have to be made. It is also a period of great change in the emotional phases of boy life. It is the dawn of manhood. It is a period of adventure. They want to achieve and excel. There is a strong desire to test strength and skill. Because of these forces, which often act as whips to a somewhat immature and growing body, care should be exercised that the boy's body is not overtaxed."

"Don't you think it is important," Mr. Sweeney was asked, "that a boy should take up a variety of sports and look after his all-around development?"

"Absolutely," he said. "In all forms of athletics nearly every muscle in the

body plays some part in the effort. I recall a certain famous weight lifter who had to work for months to strengthen his fingers. The sprinter, hurdler and jumper must develop his shoulders, chest and arms; the weight thrower his legs; the football player must have strong upper body development.

"I believe the average boy should take up a variety of work. This variation develops not only a large group of muscles but it also has a big influence on developing muscular coördination, lack of effort, distribution of weight and balance."

There is always an argument at hand regarding the main factors that develop a champion. Mr. Sweeney suggested the two main ingredients: Form or the mechanical side, and natural ability plus the character forces.

"From the mechanical side," he said, "every high performance contains three essential elements that every boy should study. First, Form; second, Speed; third, Timing of Effort. The importance of acquiring the sound fundamentals of form during school days cannot be too highly stressed because this is the most plastic period. The longer boys practice incorrect form the harder it is to break."

## Developing Healthy Form

First they must learn balance and body position, where the weight belongs to get maximum effort. Next in importance is the education, training and placing of arms, hands and feet in the best possible position to assist in the application of power.

There are some mechanical laws which prep school athletes should watch

through pictures or by studying some good athlete in action.

(1) Note the general angle and position of the body, head, arms, legs and feet approaching the point of effort.

(2) Note the general angle of body, arms, legs, etc., at the exact point of extreme effort.

(3) Particular importance should be attached to the position of the legs with relation to the body. The legs must be the base of effort.

Get a clear picture in your mind of the form you wish and then concentrate on this picture. Next, remember that you cannot learn new form and make a strong physical effort at the same time. Strong effort switches the thought from form to effort, and effort takes you back to the old and more accustomed method. Acquiring new and correct form means work, concentration and perseverance. Never practice form when mentally or physically tired. Bad habits are developed in this way.

"The second essential, speed," said Mr. Sweeney, "is a vital necessity often overlooked. Few realize how much it aids form and timing. Sprinting and running should be given a prominent place in all training. This should include the practice of quick starts, of fast and active footwork. Remember that form comes before speed. Having developed form, speed is a big help in retaining it under fire."

Timing is a most important factor. It means smoothness and rhythm of effort with good judgment of distance. It means mental and muscular coör-

dination. It can be developed by all.

I asked Mr. Sweeney just how much work a boy should handle. "The amount of work," he said, "should vary in kind and intensity with the age, physical condition and previous training experience. A boy of fourteen should do less than one of seventeen. The tall, thin and growing boy should not be worked as hard as the more normal type. Boys should not make an extreme effort in any sport for the first three or four weeks, and then only twice in the next month. The average boy does not know that muscles have their limitations and must be cared for. Periods of rest are important. Overwork weakens muscular growth and helps to break up form. I think underwork is better than overwork, because the tendency of most healthy boys is to overwork. Working yourself ragged is not only poor training but digging your grave for an early athletic demise."

## The Dangers of Overstressing

It is a mistake to force those who are lagging to keep up with the others. I think the following types are in danger of burning out at an early age if not carefully watched:

1. Physiologically immature boys who take part in too strenuous sports.
2. More mature boys who are subjected to competition too frequently.
3. In track, boys running too many time trials without sufficient rest.
4. Boys who are in competitive sports through an entire season.
5. Boys of limited physical capacity trying to keep up with the stronger types.
6. Boys who take sport too seriously—the overambitious, worrying types.

Naturally the boy who goes in for tobacco, alcohol or other strong stimulants won't have the same chance to excel as other boys have who lead cleaner lives. Mike Sweeney is a hundred per cent right when he stresses the importance of correct form at an age where correct form is easy to build. The average boy doesn't realize what a great chance he has in this respect and how important it is that he shall select the correct patterns to follow and study.