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INSTALMENT XXXVI.

prepared her breakfast as usual have recognized Colonel Dessiter the next morning and made her in the older man of languid appearance in Whitehall. pearance who walked with a slight punctual appearance in Whitehall. The mysterious chief of XYO "Clothes?" she repeated.

Similates of the sector of Her return to her duties was shuffle.

In the midst of it all, Frances was shuffle.

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In the midst of it all, Frances was a feverish desired. enthusiastic greetings or congra- asked. tulations. Dessiter simply looked "I think you're quite wonderful," sed in the most correct of town "Somehow or other," she fal- evening as she herself returned in life lately—and you've changed with him to some seaside resort. her place, and smiled. The smile wig, you're not made up, there tweeds—and with a slight limp money as being for an emer- "No telling how long there'll be dainty figure, nice voice—" bottle of wine or a new box a light limp money as being for an emer- "Place of wine or a new box a light limp money as being for an emer- "No telling how long there'll be dainty figure, nice voice—"

"Well done, Miss Brown," he said, turning back to his letters. "You managed that excellently."

Miss Brown divested herself of her coat and hat, arranged her hair by guess work and walked on air to her seat. She felt as though one of the great ones of the world had stooped down from some high place to pat her on the back and overwhelm her with congratula-

She knew that her instructions had been carried out faithfully and, intelligently, and that one laconic sentence of appreciation had set all her blood tingling and filled her with a great and holy satisfaction with life and things in general. Dessiter finished his letter and turned round in his

"Plenty of more work ahead of us. Miss Brown," he remarked. "I'm very glad to hear it," she

replied. "May I ask a question?" He nodded. "So long as is isn't an indiscreet

"About Lady Hannerton?"

Dessiter stretched out his hand toward the box of orcigarettes, which was never far from his elbow, selected one and lit it.

"She ought to be shot," he said. "We're the sort of country though that doesn't go in for that sort of thing. Our new establishment depends virtually upon an understanding with the authorities that we are not to press for the more rigorous penalties. That's why I worked so hard to get the reservists back under military discipline. It's a soppy business, anyhow. Lady Hannerton will be playing trente et quarente at Monte Carlo tomorrow night. She is on her way

Miss Brown breathed a little sigh of relief. "She was quite kind to me in her way," she explained, "and I felt--

well, it was the first time, you know, that I had done that sort of work—I felt rather a sneak." Dessiter looked at her for a mo-

ment curiously through the wreaths of cigarette smoke.

"Yes, I suppose you would," he remarked. "That's what makes you such a perfect agent for certain odd enterprises. But it makes me doubt very much whether you would succeed in the profession generally."

"How soon do you think anything will happen?" Miss Brown "Not for a week or a fortnight,

at any rate," Dessiter replied. "By the bye, during that time I may be here or I may not. Come and go at your usual time and you will find every morning upon your desk all the work you can get through. For instance, there's a day's work there now. The lists that are to be copied must be sealed and handed over by you to a representative from X.Y.O., Scotland Yard, who will come when you telephone for

"What am I to say if there are any callers?"

"There will be none. You must remember that this block of Govern. ment Buildings finishes on the seventh floor. These rooms have no recognized existence. Our telephone is a separate line, and you won't find the name of 'Mr. John Glyde' in the book. There are two commissionaires on duty night and day on the seventh floor. where the elevator and staircase end, and no one is allowed to ascend higher unless they have a pass from X.Y.O., Scotland Yard. or the War Office. You have your

key of the door?" Miss Brown showed it to him, attached to a chain which went round her neck.

"Mergen and his wife live up here. That is all. They'll keep the rooms tidy and Mrs. Mergen would cook a meal if you wanted one. Deal with any emergency that may occur according to your discre-

"You talk as though you were going away for some time," Miss Brown remarked.

"My movements are uncertain," Dessiter answered. "I am going out now. I may be back later in the day-perhaps not for two or three days. I shall leave no address-

not even for you." He made his way through the door which communicated with his private apartment and Miss Brown began upon her pile of letters. When he reappeared in about half

don't believe a soul in the world would believe that you are the man I found-lying upon the couch in Lembertson Square. I shouldn't have recognized you."

"My youthful experience in theatricals helps." he remarked. "I was taught then to make up phsychologically rather than with the air of Clarkson. However, I'm going out by the back way and step into

"I wonder where you're going?" she murmured a little wistfully. "As a matter of fact, Miss some diffidence. Brown, I don't mind telling you,' he confided-"it isn't a dead sec- turning around. the two representatives of XYO money?"

up from his desk, waved her to she assured him. "You haven't a clothes—Dessiter had always worn tered, "I always looked upon that from Whitehall. any attention, whatever, yet I occasionally upon a rubber-shod "The emergency has arrived," where," Frances announced, "so "It's really rather a blow to me," (To Be Continued Tomorrow)

SUMMER SUNSHINE FOR BABIES SCOTTS EMULSION GET A BOTTLE TODAY

proclaim itself somehow as pro- strike had been planned and or- "I don't know why I'd let myself hopeless sort of men seem to the

tory repeated itself. The price of a new frock underneath! Why, exclaimed, "Who ever would be a new idea how at- at an insignificant coal soared, shares in all the great child, have you any idea how at- at an insignificant little industrials and textiles dropped, tractive you are looking?" like me when you are about all sorts of contradictory reports Miss Brown flushed as she slip- that beautiful figure of your with were floating around, but the chief ped of fher coat and little pull- your lovely features." stick—a limp which seemed to ways. This was the first time a stove.

Stick—a limp which seemed to ways. This was the first time a stove.

"I don't know why I'd let myself hopeless soft of sighed. "All ganized entirely at the dictates of get so shabby." she said. "Even my a fancy to me Lend me six pens "Miss Brown," he said, with the Communist Party, without in- employer hinted that it was time for a bath, Edith."

"Yes, Mr. Glyde," she answered indorsement of the trades unions. "An employer who takes an in- ling back again began to dive he confided—"it isn't a dead secturning around, ret anyhow—I'm going to meet "Have you spent all that with great success, and Malakoff remarked, as she lit a cigarette, "A young farmer down at Mead to the "becomes at once interesting. Give owley," she recounted to the "becomes at once interesting. Give owley," she recounted to the "becomes at once interesting." himself was acclaimed to the "becomes at once interesting. Give owley," she recounted, "come from Scotland Yard and the War She laughed softly.

echo. To the one or two inter- me a full description of Mr. John smelling of cows, red-faced and the Clyde" Office across at Downing Street, "Not a twentieth part of it." viewers, however, who forsook the Glyde."

Viewers, however, who forsook the Glyde."

Viewers, however, who forsook the Glyde." and we're going to have a little "If I might make the sugges- subject of music and endeavored "I've told you all about him al- time with an ash stick and endeavored "I've told you all about him al- time with an ash stick and endeavored "I've told you all about him al- time with an ash stick and endeavored the ready" Miss Brown reminded her think of anythink of any friendly chat with the Prime Min- tion without offence," he contin- to obtain his views upon the in- ready," Miss Brown reminded her, think of anything to say he

Miss Brown was probably made They were slight in their way, and the right moment. Queer fellows, gards your future income, why not country," he said, "and my opin- ferent to women, and I am quite work in a small, ugly farmhous the right moment. Queer fellows, gards your future income, why not country," he would never have noticed I'm not sure he would never have not sure he would never he would nev of sterner stuff than was sugges- yet significant. All the variations these politicians. Spring your in- spend some of it upon clothes?" ions and convictions are well sure he would never have noticed I'm not sure that I should have to do the ted by her mild and, in its way, which had transformed Colonel formation upon them all at once Miss Brown's blue eyes opened known. Here, I am a guest and I my clothes but for the fact that have to do the washing, too Am

handsome elderly gentleman, dres- money," found her entering the flat one taking a great deal more interest to get me to pay a fleeting vis

itself, however, was a very rare isn't anything about to attract which necessitated his leaning gency."

he insisted. "See to it, Miss Brown I thought I'd come up and have Frances went on. "I always use to consider myself to conside he insisted. "See to it, Miss Brown a final fling. But heavens' what's to consider myself the more at He departed, closing the door happened to you Edith? Turn tractive when we went out togeth round. A new fur coat, and what er. I'm not so sure of it now," During the next few days his- a pretty one—and hat, too!—and "Don't be an idiot!" Miss Br

itiation from, with scarcely the I bought some clothes, so I did." She started the geyser and stml

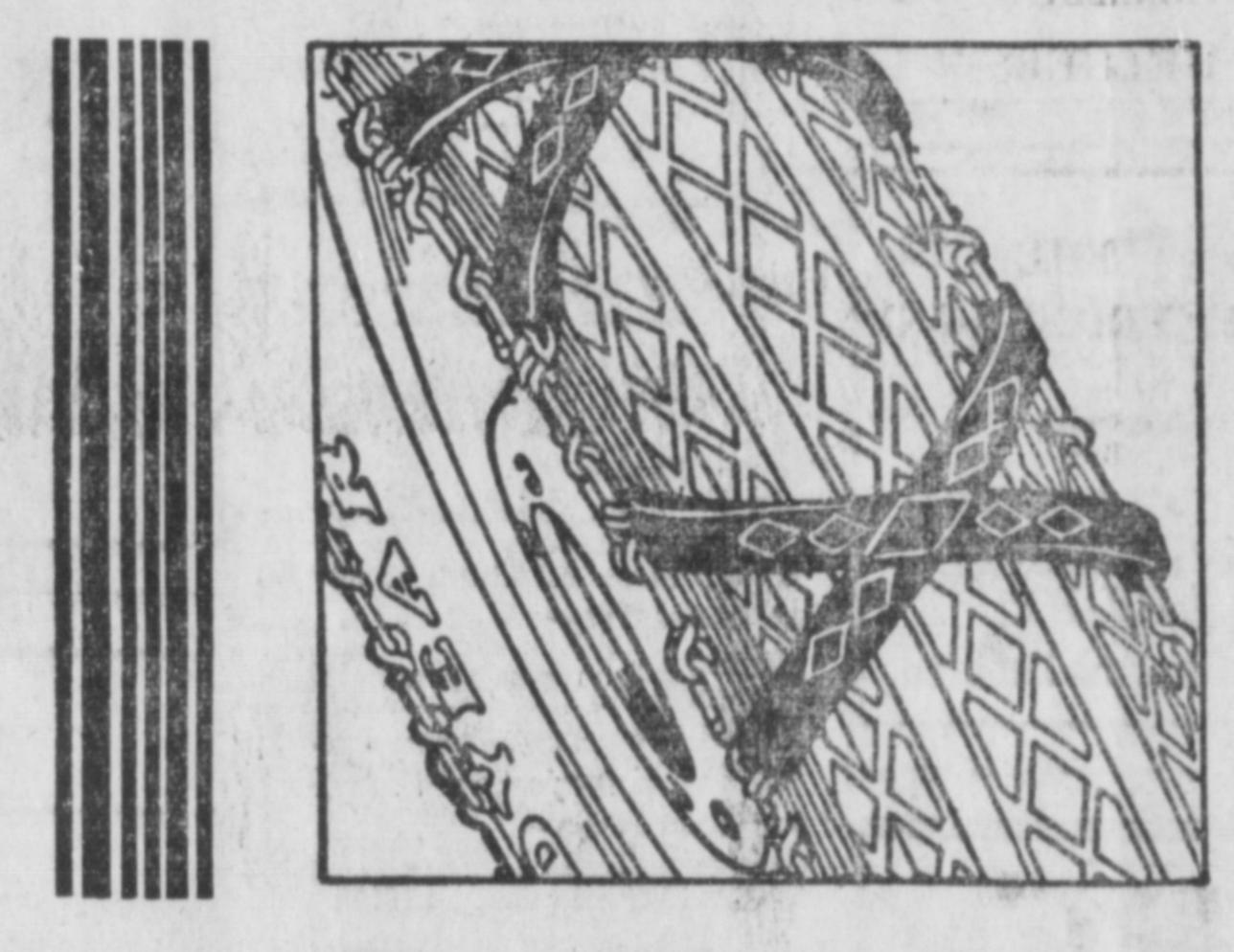
Malakoff's opera was produced terest in one's clothes," Frances herself of her clothes.

an hour, she noticed with interest ister. There are just one or two ued, "especially now as you are dustrial situation, he was dumb. "He's elderly, very stern and yet one of my admirers. If I marks the changes in his appearance. little things I've kept back until freed from any anxiety as re- "I was a politician in my own quite kind. He's absolutely indif- him I should have to do my on the changes in his appearance. It is a should have to do my on the changes in his appearance. kindly demeanor — sterner stuff, Dessiter into John Glyde were and they think you've got a bee in a little wider. She glanced at her have nothing to say."

I am in a government office. My as for other domestic details. perhaps, than she herself realized. Slightly emphasized. With extra- your bonnet. Give it to them piece- hat and mackintosh hanging up It was a statement which pro- shoes were patched, my dress "Please don't "Miss Brown and the dward a smile among cortain of was shiny and the fur of that old interrupted She slept well that night in her ordinary little help from artificial meal and hesitantly, and they in a corner, remembered the duced a smile among certain of was shiny and they in a corner, remembered. little room at Shepherd's Market, means, no one in the world would believe you. Au revoir, Miss shininess of one sleeve of her ficials of Whitehall and Scotland coat of mine was in a disgrace- "All right," Frances agreed

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