

self is a must arrest couple ed to ps to where r man ?" he st this rough u. He ae into waned nself in cute in e mark, out this we know o it?" e had re-nspector. interest. e trouble ngs. Pity e more ex-is now." n no need e." ;, do you? rong." recount to g at all." ld lady was on Tue...v onvuls sent fo... rived she was of a fit. Well, ok of things. d put it with a made it clear ath certificate. o, that's where re awaiting the n. We've got a ave us the tip police surgeon and the result The old lady ychaine."

"Water." "Worse and worse." "Of a teaser, isn't it?" "Had money, the old lady?" "Very well to do, I imagine. Of course, we haven't got exact details yet. The Delafontaines are pretty badly off, from what I can make out. The old lady helped with the upkeep of the house." Poirot smiled a little. He said, "So you suspect the Delafontaines. Which of them?" "I don't exactly say I suspect either of them in particular. But there it is; they're her only near relations, and her death brings them a tidy sum of money, I've no doubt. We all know what human nature is!"

"SOMETIMES inhuman—yes, that is very true. And there was nothing else the old lady ate or drank?" "Well, as a matter of fact ——" "Ah, *voilà!* I felt that you had something, as you say, up your sleeve—the soup, the fish pie, the apple tart—a *bêtise!* Now we come to the hub of the affair." "I don't know about that. But as a matter of fact, the old girl took a cachet before meals. You know, not a pill or a tablet; one of those rice-paper things with a powder inside. Some perfectly harmless thing for the digestion." "Admirable. Nothing is easier than to fill a cachet with strychnine and substitute it for one of the others. It slips down the throat with a drink of water and is not tasted."

"That's all right. The trouble is, the girl gave it to her." "The Russian girl?" "Yes, Katrina Kieger. She was a kind of lady-help, nurse-companion to Miss Barrowby. Fairly ordered about by her, too, I gather. Fetch this, fetch that, fetch the other, rub my back, pour out my medicine, run round to the chemist—all that sort of business. You know how it is with these old women—they mean to be kind, but what they need is a sort of black slave!" Poirot smiled.

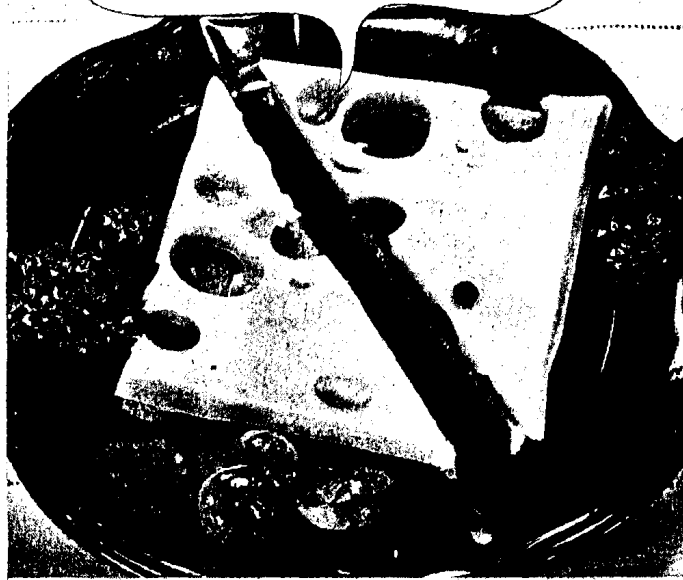
"AND there you are, you see," continued Inspector Sims. "It doesn't fit in what you might call nicely. Why should the girl poison her? Miss Barrowby dies and now the girl will be out of a job, and jobs aren't so easy to find—she's not trained or anything." "Still," suggested Poirot, "if the box of cachets was left about, anyone in the house might have the opportunity." "Naturally we're onto that, M. Poirot. I don't mind telling you we're making our inquiries—quiet like, if you understand me. When the prescription was last made up, where it was usually kept, patience and a lot of spade work—that's what will do the trick in the end. And then there's Miss Barrowby's solicitor. I'm having an interview with him tomorrow. And the bank manager. There's a lot to be done still."

Poirot rose. "A little favor, Inspector Sims: you will send me a little word how the affair marches. I would esteem it a great favor. Here is my telephone number."

"Why, certainly, M. Poirot. Two heads are better than one; and, besides, you ought to be in on this, having had that letter and all." "You are too amiable, inspector." Politely, Poirot shook hands and took his leave.

He was called to the telephone on the following afternoon. "Is that M. Poirot? Inspector Sims here. Things are beginning to sit up and look pretty in that little matter you and I know of."

DON'T BLOT OUT MY RICH CHEESE TASTE WITH CHEAP MUSTARD



8 out of 10 leading Makers of fine Cheese say: "THIS MUSTARD ADDS ZEST"

CHEESE MAKERS are connoisseurs of flavor—they want their cheese mellow or snappy, tart or sweet as a nut.

Eight out of ten leading fine cheese makers approve French's Mustard with cheese, yet there are hundreds of different mustards on the market.

In addition to these fine cheese makers, 8 out of 10 leading packers of fine meats approve this mustard. They say French's Mustard brings out the full flavor of fine ham, tongue, frankfurters, corned beef.

That's proof it is a superior mustard! French's Mustard is real mustard—pure, unadulterated. Skillfully blended of the finest of selected spices—the purest of quality vinegar—the choicest mustard seeds. That is why this mustard is smooth, not crude. Piquant, but never "too hot." Savory, never flat and insipid.

- Better Vinegar
- Better Spices
- Better Mustard Seeds



The rich mellow flavor of good cheese is made more tasty, more appetizing when the keen lively tang of French's Mustard is added to it. When you eat cheese—eat French's Mustard. Try it and be convinced. 10¢ and 15¢ sizes.

PEP UP YOUR PARTIES **JOAN LEARNS A BIT OF MAGIC**

Colman's Mustard is that rare-tasting dry English Mustard. Good chefs always use it in cooking. Makes food flavors lively. Tempts the appetite. A favorite with the men.

For table use—French's Prepared Mustard—For cooking and seasoning—Colman's Dry Mustard