

Lady Bountiful SO UNCHARITABLE



Her Friends in Trenton Never Suspected the Strange Double Life of Anna Callahan, Who Squandered Her Embezzled Thousands to Purchase the Affections of a Few Passing Friends—and Gave \$2 a Year to Charity.



sum of \$2 per year." Miss Callahan took it standing. The transient friends whom she had never let meet her lifelong friends weren't there to stand beside her. They weren't there to hear the judge call them "leeches and parasites."

They weren't there to hear him say to her: "Five years in prison."

Why did she do it? Psychologists say she may have been like many others; a girl without a sweetheart; then a young woman, and unmarried; then a woman past 50.

Hungry for affection, she may have spent the bank's money to get a grotesque semblance of it.

Other women have followed a

similar path. There's Madeline Dunnigan. She was a trusted bookkeeper in an expensive luggage shop in New York. She gave away her employer's stock and money.

To more than 50 service men she sent fine luggage. She raised other employes' pay; put a girl friend on the payroll.

In 11 months her liberality cost her employer \$25,000. When he found out, he walked to a window and plunged nine stories to his death. She went to prison for two years.

In England, Dorothy Elliott gave away the funds of the Wombwell Main Collier Company, where she was secretary, on an even bigger scale, all in a good cause. She couldn't help it.

By falsification of accounts and forgery, she got the funds to buy miles of bandages, a new fire engine for West Riding, books for the library, toys for refugee children, baskets for the poor, dealt out rolls of bills. In seven years she disposed of \$350,000 of company money, and, as she turned 40, was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

It's often an emotional disorder, psychologists say. Dr. Walter Bromberg, who has reported swindling cases for the American Journal of Psychiatry, points this out. Not only spinsters are offenders, he says, unhappily married women, too, may seek bizarre compensation for denied affection. They find selfish friends fawning a substitute for love.



Madeline Dunnigan, Bookkeeper in New York, Was So Generous With Her Boss's Money That She Drove Him to Suicide.

By D. A. Laird, Ph. D., Sci. D.
Internationally Known Lecturer and Psychologist

PLUMP and prim and graying—with no warmth about her, no softness in her unflinching eyes—Anna T. Callahan faced the judge.

For 33 years she had worked inside the cage of the First Mechanics Bank of Trenton, N. J., trusted and competent. The depositors could hardly have dreamed that she, the aging spinster, had been leading a double life. Now they knew; work-a-day Trenton was a-buzz with it.

This moment, she was aware, was the end of a cycle. Now she would begin penance for embezzling \$149,000, spending it on lavish and absurd gifts to passing friends—while giving \$2 a year to charity.

"Your family is not before the court," said Judge Phillip Forman. "You alone are here for sentence."

She was alone. The word beat into her mind. She'd been alone, before, or so it had seemed. Her family was an outstanding one in Trenton. Her old-time friends were prominent people.

She had sought new friends in recent years. She'd become a singular kind of Lady Bountiful of the type which psychologists say finds shallow praise a substitute for love.

"Miss Callahan," the judge said, "you have made out of the latter part of your life a reckless, careening joy ride. This has consisted of a spree of years' standing. You crashed property consisting of \$149,000 of other

people's money.

"This you dispensed in a very curious way. It was in guzzling food and drink and gathering around you a small coterie of so-called friends who guzzled and drank with you and upon whom you lavished innumerable presents of expensive nature."

He cited items which he said amazed him; \$28,000 spent in an obscure tavern on the outskirts of Trenton; \$16,000 for luxuries bought in Philadelphia, including 24 bottles of perfume at \$30 each for a friend; \$8,000 in tips "to purchase the affection of waiters and taxi drivers"; \$7,500 for taxicab fares; \$6,250 at a shore resort.

"Your charity of this enormous sum of money might be measured by your contribution to the leading charitable and philanthropic project of Trenton and it was in the

Just what I paid. Ain't it funny: psychologists & agree.