

AN AFTERNOON BY THE SEASIDE - An excerpt between Inspector Foley and George & Mrs. Crum, regular sunbathers on the beach. INSPECTOR FOLEY is investigating the recent disappearance of an emerald necklace.
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GEORGE. Looking for cat burglars, is that it?

FOLEY. You're on the right track.

GEORGE. Doesn't seem much scope for them here.

FOLEY. Information received, it seems some kids were out after dark last night and were down on the beach playing cops and robbers, or spacemen and atom bombs or whatever kids play nowadays and they saw a man sneaking round the huts at this end of the Parade.

I dare say they wouldn't have thought much of it but the man bolted when he saw them.

MRS. CRUM. I suppose he was trying to steal something out of the huts?

FOLEY. According to them, he was trying to shove something into a hut through the little back window. The kids only came clean about it this afternoon. It might just possibly tie up with the theft of Lady Beckman's necklace. Passing it on to an accomplice.

GEORGE. So you're searching all the huts?

FOLEY. Just the huts this end of the beach. We've done the first three. It definitely wasn't farther along than the sixth.