

THE LUNCHROOM MURDER



On an otherwise uneventful Thursday, police heard a shot in Ernie's Lunchroom, rushed inside, and found this scene.

They identified the body as that of Five-Fingered Fannin, a racketeer. Ernie, who had no helper, had only one fact to tell: The murderer had leaned against the wall while firing at point-blank range. The imprint of his hand is in clear view.

From these facts and an examination of the scene, can you answer the questions and tell who killed Fannin?

Questions

1. Had Ernie been mopping up recently? Yes _____ No _____
2. How many customers had recently been in the restaurant? None _____ One _____ Two _____ Three _____ Four _____ Five _____
3. Do you think Ernie was the victim of a holdup? Yes _____ No _____
4. Do you think B, C, and D knew each other? Yes _____ No _____
5. Did A enter the restaurant before D? Yes _____ No _____
6. At least how many people were in the restaurant the instant that Fannin entered? One _____ Two _____ Three _____ Four _____ Five _____ Six _____
7. Would footsteps show if they had not traversed the wet spaces? Yes _____ No _____
8. Which are Ernie's footsteps? X _____ Y _____ Z _____
9. Did Ernie walk out through the kitchen door? Yes _____ No _____
10. Did Ernie ring up the \$8.75 sale on the cash register before the murder? Yes _____ No _____
11. Where was Ernie at the moment of the shooting? Near the mop _____ Near the cash register _____ Near the kitchen _____
12. Which are A's footsteps? X _____ Y _____ Z _____
13. Did A run out through the kitchen door? Yes _____ No _____
14. Are the footsteps marked X those of the murderer? Yes _____ No _____
15. Did the murderer fire with his right hand? Yes _____ No _____
16. Who killed Fannin? A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ Ernie _____

Solution on page 57