

Back to the Soil

Gardening time has come, and most people are planning on back yard gardens and what they will grow this season. The very first thing to be considered is

Garden Tool Equipment

Whether your garden is on the farm or in the back yard of the city home, you will need efficient tools. We are showing a splendid line of GARDEN TOOLS of EVERY DESCRIPTION this week. Peek in at our big window and see the array of garden implements that will help to make your work pay big returns. This display will enable you to see what you need.

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THE "CANARY" MURDER CASE

CHARACTERS
Phil Vance.
John F. X. Markham, district attorney of New York.
Margaret Odell (the "Canary").
Charles Cleaver, a man-about-town.
Kenneth Spotswood, a manufacturer.
Louis Mannix, an importer.
Dr. Ambrose Lindquist, a fashionable neurologist.
Tony Steel, a professional burglar.
William Elmer Jessup, telephone operator.
Harry Spively, telephone operator.
Ernest Heath, Sergeant of the Homicide Bureau.

THE STORY THUS FAR
The thing that baffles Vance most is the jewel case. It had been opened with a steel chisel after being battered with a poker. It was found not far from the strangled body of Margaret Odell. In no way can anyone account for the presence of anyone in the apartment at the time of the murder, yet Vance is satisfied two men were there, one of them unaware of the presence of the other. Finger-prints lead to the arrest of Tony Steel, after Cleaver and Dr. Lindquist have been questioned.

CHAPTER XX
(Wednesday, September 12; 9 a. m.)
The following day, which was Wednesday, not only brought forth an important and, as it appeared, conclusive development in the Odell case but marked the beginning of Vance's active co-operation in the proceedings.
The psychological elements in the case had appealed to him irresistibly, and he felt, even at this stage of the investigation, that a final answer could never be obtained along the usual police lines. At his request Markham had called for him a little before nine o'clock, and he had driven direct to the district attorney's office.
Heath was waiting impatiently when we arrived. His eager and covertly triumphant expression plainly indicated good news.
"Things are breaking fine and dandy," he announced when we had sat down. He himself was too elated to relax, and stood before Markham's desk rolling a large black cigar between his fingers.
"We got the Duke—six o'clock yesterday evening—and we got him right. One of the C. O. boys, named Riley, who was patrolling Sixth Avenue in the Thirties, saw him swing off a surface car and head for McAnery's Pawn Shop. Right away Riley wigwags the traffic officer on the corner, and follows the Duke into McAnery's. Pretty soon the traffic officer comes in with a patrolman, who he's picked up, and the three of 'em nab our stylish friend in the act of pawing this ring."
He tossed a square solitaire diamond in a filigree platinum setting on the district attorney's desk.
"I was at the office when they brought him in, and I sent Smith with the ring up to Harlow to see what the maid had to say about it, and she identified it as belonging to Odell."
Vance put the question casually.
"Heath perked up and eyed him with sullen calculation.
"What if it wasn't? It came out of that jimmied jewel-case—er 'Pud Ben Hur."
"Of course it did," murmured Vance, lapsing into lethargy.
"And that's where we're in luck," declared Heath, turning back to Markham. "It connects Steel directly with the murder and the robbery."
"What has Steel to say about it?" Markham was leaning forward intently. "I suppose you questioned him."
"I'll say we did," replied the sergeant; but his tone was troubled.
"We had him up all night giving him the works. And the story he tells is this: he says the girl gave him the ring a week ago, and that he didn't see her again until the afternoon of day before yesterday. He came to her apartment between four and five—you remember the maid said she was out then—and entered and left the house by the side door, which was unlocked at that time."
"He admits he called again at half past nine that night, but he says that when he found she was out, he went straight home and stayed there."
"His alibi is that he sat up with his landlady till after midnight playing Khan Khan and drinking beer. I happened up to his place this morning, and the old girl verified it. But that don't mean anything. The house he lives in is a pretty tough hang-out, and this landlady, besides being a heavy boozier, has been up the river a couple of times for shoplifting."
"What does Steel say about the finger-prints?"
"He says, of course, he made 'em when he was in the afternoon."
"And the one on the closet door-knob?"
"He's got an answer for that, too—says he thought he heard some one coming in, and locked himself in the closet-closet. Didn't want to be seen and spoil any game Odell might be playing."
"Most considerate of him to keep out of the way," drawled Vance.
"Touchin' loyalty, what?"
"You don't believe the rat, do you, Mr. Vance?" asked Heath, with indignant surprise.

"Can't say that I do. But our Antonio at least spins a consistent yarn."
"Too damn consistent to suit me," growled the sergeant.
"That's all you could get out of him? It was plain that Markham was not pleased with the results of Heath's third degree of Steel."
"That's about all, sir. He stuck to his story like a leech."
"You found no chisel in his room?"
Heath admitted that he didn't. Markham pondered the facts for several minutes.
"I can't see that we've got a very good case, however much we may be convinced of Steel's guilt. His alibi may be him, but taken in connection with the phone operator's testimony, I'm inclined to think it would hold tight in court."
"What about the rings, sir?"
Heath was desperately disappointed. "And what about his threats, and his finger-prints, and his record of similar burglaries?"
"Contributory factors only," Markham expounded. "What we need for a murder is more than a prima facie case. A good criminal lawyer could have him discharged in twenty minutes, even if I could secure an indictment. It's not impossible, you know, that the woman gave him the ring a week ago—you recall that the maid said he was demanding money from her about that time."
"And there's nothing to show that the finger-prints were not actually made late Monday afternoon. Moreover, we can't connect him in any way with the chisel, for we don't know who did the Park Avenue job last summer. His whole story fits the facts perfectly; and we haven't anything contradictory to offer."
Heath shrugged helplessly; all the wind had been taken out of his sails.
"What do you want done with him?" he asked desolately.
Markham considered—he, too, was disconcerted.
"Before I answer I think I'll have a go at him myself."
He pressed a buzzer, and ordered a clerk to fill out the necessary requisition. When it had been signed in duplicate, he sent Swacker with it to Ben Thunlon.
"Do ask him about those silk shirts," suggested Vance. "And find out, if you can, if he considers a white waistcoat de rigueur with a dinner-jacket."
"This office isn't a male millinery shop," snapped Markham.
"But Markham, dear, you won't learn anything else from this Pertronius."
Ten minutes later a deputy sheriff from the Tombs entered with his handcuffed prisoner.
Steel's appearance that morning belied his bobbing of Duke. He was haggard and pale; his ordeal of the previous night had left its imprint upon him. He was unshaven; his hair was uncombed; the ends of his mustache drooped; and his cravat was awry. But despite his bedraggled condition, his manner was jaunty and contemptuous. He gave Heath a defiant

leer, and faced the district attorney with swaggering indifference.
To Markham's questions he doggedly repeated the same story he had told Heath. He clung tenaciously to every detail of it with the ready accuracy of a man who had painstakingly memorized a lesson and was thoroughly familiar with it.
Markham coaxed, threatened, bullied. All hint of his usual affability was gone; he was like an inexorable dynamic machine. But Steel, whose nerves seemed to be made of iron, withstood the vicissitudes of his cross-questioning without wincing; and, I confess, his resistance somewhat aroused my admiration despite my revulsion toward him and all he stood for.
After half an hour Markham gave up, completely baffled in his efforts to elicit any damaging admissions from the man. He was about to dismiss him when Vance rose languidly and strolled to the district attorney's desk. Seating himself on the edge of it, he regarded Steel with impersonal curiosity.
"So you're a devotee of Khan Khan, eh?" he remarked, indifferently. "Silly game, what? More interestin' than Conquain or Rumm. Used to be played in the London clubs. Of East Indian origin, I believe. . . . You still play it with two decks, I suppose, and permit round-the-corner matter?"
An involuntary frown gathered on Steel's forehead. He was used to violent district attorneys, and familiar with the bludgeoning methods of the police, but here was a type of inquisitor entirely new to him; and it was plain that he was both puzzled and apprehensive. He decided to meet this novel antagonist with a smirk of arrogant amusement.
"By the bye," continued Vance, with no change in tone, "can any one hidden in the clothes-dress of the Odell living-room see the day-enport through the keyhole?"
Suddenly all trace of a smile was erased from the man's features.
"And I say," Vance hurried on, his eyes fixed steadily on the other, "why didn't you give the alarm?"
I was watching Steel closely, and, though his set expression did not alter, I saw the pupils of his eyes dilate. Markham, also, I think, noted this phenomenon.
(TO BE CONTINUED)

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KOZER'S JOB EYED BY 8 MEN, LATEST POLITICAL DOPE

(Associated Press Local Wire)

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 7.—Political developments of the week in Oregon are summarized today by The Portland Telegram in an article by Henry M. Hansen, as follows:

Governor Alfred E. Smith, of New York, will be a candidate for the Oregon Democratic presidential nomination.
Hal Hoss, private secretary to Governor Patterson, will be a candidate for the Republican nomination of secretary of state.
So will Thomas B. Handley, a well known attorney of this city, and former corporation commissioner.
So will probably also H. H. Corey, public service commissioner, and Carl Abrams, state purchasing agent.
C. N. Laughridge, now assistant secretary of state, State Senator Linn Jones of Oregon City, Speaker John H. Carlin of Medford, and State Senator John B. Bell, of Eugene, are possibilities.
Gilbert B. Hamaker, former Multnomah county Democratic chairman, and now head of the Tammany society, is authority for the statement that Governor Smith will be entered as a candidate in the Democratic presidential primaries.

ATTENTION LEGIONNAIRES

Regular meeting of Umpqua Post No. 16, American Legion, S. P. m., Tuesday, Feb. 7th. Come and bring a Buddy with you. New members requested to come and meet the gang.
ADJUTANT.

GIRL MAY SURVIVE LOST BOWED LEGS

(Associated Press Local Wire)

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—Miss Sadie Holland, whose legs were amputated after a "beauty operation," today was reported on the way back to health.
Miss Holland underwent an operation to straighten her slightly bowed legs, which she considered a handicap in her proposed operatic career.
Following the first operation gangrene set in, necessitating amputation of both legs. Blood transfusions later were credited with saving her life.

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CEDAR flooring at a low price at Page's.
FOR SALE—Wade drag saw. Inquire Chrysler Garage.
FOR SALE—Regular steel stake rack for Ford truck. 131 Flint St.
HAY FOR SALE—Edenbower Orchard tracts. Phone 2673.
FOR SALE—Several good size shoats, each \$7. Lindholm, Dixonville.
FORD TRUCK with Warford transmission for sale at Hansen Chevrolet Co.
FOR SALE—Incubators and brooder cheap. Roseburg Poultry Co., 601 N. Jackson.
FOR SALE—Poland China bear at a bargain, also set with 8 pigs. A. F. Sukdorf, Coos Junction.
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MYERS POWER SPRAYER—\$125, overhauled and repainted. Farm Bureau Exchange.
FOR SALE—Bulok 4 light delivery truck, A1 condition, reasonable. Phone 15. Ted Post.
FOR SALE—Pedigreed, registered English pit bulldog. Cheap. 616 Fullerton St.
FOR SALE—One Toggenberg buck and 2 milch goats. R. Hohenstein, Myrtle Creek.
FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red hatching eggs, \$3.50 per 100. Aug. Cederstam, Medford.
FOR SALE—Barred Rock hatching eggs, \$4 per 100. Roosters. Apples, C. E. Trueblood, Roseburg.
CHEVROLET TRUCK—Last year's model, with cab and body; in fine condition. For sale at Hansen Chevrolet Co.
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FOR SALE—Used lumber, 3 from barrels, chicken corral wire netting, virtually new, 6 ft. high. Emma Lee, High and Kane Sts.

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FOR RENT—Furnished house. 641 Pitzer St. Phone 418-R.
FOR RENT—Desirable 6-room house, close in. Phone 475.
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FOR RENT—4-room modern furnished house. Phone 471-L or call 547 S. Stephens.
FOR RENT—10-room modern, partly furnished house on Winchester St., North Roseburg. S. W. Stamer, Soldiers' Home.
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MISCELLANEOUS

HOME laundry. 929 Winchester St. OAR OWNER—Don't forget to call 553 when in need of auto parts. Sarff's Auto Wrecking House.
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