

THE SPY NET

by ARED WHITE

CHAPTER 30

Long Ears

Monsieur Za was bubbling over with an arrogant self-satisfaction as he was left in charge of Elton. He snatched his fingers impatiently at one of the chateau attendants, who interpreted the unspoken order by bringing a sheet of colored linen paper, a pen contained in a glass of water and a small lancet.

"Monsieur will please to remove his tunic," Za instructed. "A prick of the knife, a dip of the pen, and monsieur will sign the Imperial oath of allegiance with his own red ink."

Elton extended his arm nonchalantly. "An absurdity," he said, "but I suppose I must put up with it." "A valuable document when it is signed, monsieur," said Za. He gave the lancet a quick thrust and handed Elton the pen. "Sign please, before the ink congeals."

"With reservations," said Elton as he dashed his name upon the document and returned it to Za. "An oath under duress."

"As I said a moment ago," replied Za, handing the accomplished oath to the flunky for disposition. "A valuable document when signed. At least it gives us the power of life and death over you."

"Well, what next?" "The matter of a report, monsieur. A report which we wish made to the chief of your secret service in France."

Za snapped his fingers again. The servant brought a typewritten sheet and handed it to him. After reading it through, Za passed it to Elton.

"Sign, monsieur," he commanded. "When that is done, we will proceed to Geneva, where you may place your report in the consulate mail."

"You must have felt quite sure of yourselves, Za, to have this prepared in advance." "When his excellency sets his mind to a thing, it never fails," boasted Za. "Monsieur is not the first American officer to take an oath, and will not be the last if more of your kind dare set foot in Switzerland."

If Elton expected to sign a report whose very extravagance and absurdity would betray it to Colonel Rand when the document had reached headquarters, he was startled by the unceremonious understanding in which the thing had been prepared. He saw that, after all, it was served several purposes. Not only would it reassure Colonel Rand, but it also paved the way for Elton to sign in Switzerland for an indefinite period. It read:

"Dear Colonel: Things progress well. I have secured a number of excellent leads, but find we were mistaken about that von Kulin suspicion. The German secret service doesn't amount to as much as reported over here in Switzerland, thanks to Swiss neutrality precautions. I am working with the Swiss and French to good purpose, and find myself able to promise you excellent results, as well as a complete report, within thirty days. Please pay no attention to the mails for the next few weeks. It would be found out if you intercept letters and spill all our plans over here."

Very respectfully yours,
Fox Elton
Captain, Engr. Reg. U. S. Army.

Even while he was signing his name to the bogus report, Elton was busy with his plans of circumventing its purpose. If Colonel Rand should drop the scrutiny of the official mails, Elton knew that the consequences might prove serious. His manner was perfunctory as he returned the report to Za, who sealed it and put it in his pocket.

"Before my departure at Geneva, I shall return the letter to you for posting, monsieur. But please to dismiss any thought you may have of cheating the mailbox at your consulate. Observant eyes shall accompany you hereafter when you go to the new German-American post office."

The launch in which Elton had come to the chateau was waiting for them, from which Elton deduced that the craft was really held at the disposal of Za. As they neared Geneva, Za gave Elton his further instructions.

"By Herr Sirwulter's instructions, given in the name of Count von Kulin, you are to contact the French secret service," said Za. "It was left to me to carry out the further details. His voice became peremptory. I direct that you proceed as soon as it is nightfall to the Cafe du Nord."

"In that an order, or a request, Za?" Elton bowed the point. "I shall return the letter to you for posting, monsieur. But please to dismiss any thought you may have of cheating the mailbox at your consulate. Observant eyes shall accompany you hereafter when you go to the new German-American post office."

"A request, then," agreed Za grudgingly. "You will seek out the French tonight at the du Nord?" "For what purpose—what is it I'm expected to do?"

"As you please, monsieur," Za was evidently grateful to have their conversation returned to a basis of outward politeness. "It does not matter."

"But I don't understand what I'm expected to learn," Elton persisted, genuinely puzzled by the other's terse reply.

"It does not matter," Za repeated. "You meet with the French secret agent at the Cafe du Nord, you confer with him, you say what you wish. Voilà! That is all."

"Then there is nothing special I'm to bring up?" "But no, monsieur. Nothing."

When they landed at the Quai du Mont Blanc, Za took the letter from his pocket and handed it to Elton.

"In your hand you will carry it to the consulate, monsieur," he instructed. "I am responsible that it do not fail."

"I suppose you even want to go into the consulate with me and see it censored, stamped and dropped in the courier pouch?"

"Ah, but the monsieur shall have the more pleasant company," smiled Za. "As an attaché of Austria, monsieur, I might perhaps be recognized. Besides, I return on the instant to the chateau for matters of greater importance."

Elton was crossing the quay when the more pleasant company to which Za had referred appeared in his course in the person of Mademoiselle Le Rivet. Mademoiselle was alone and afoot today, and she threw off her usual reserve to greet him with a warm friendliness that he saw was simulated for the benefit of possible curious eyes.

"You are to see a great deal of me, monsieur," she said with forced airiness. "I am waiting to go with you now to your consulate, while you put a certain letter."

"This is an honor," said Elton ironically. "The German secret service not only favors me with membership—membership with reservations—but assigns its most clever temptress to go about with me and see that I do not have too many reservations."

"Nevertheless, it is necessary in tempting some men," Mademoiselle Le Rivet retorted.

"You pink me in my vulnerable spot," Elton said dryly. "You refer to the beautiful confesse, of course."

"To Sencora Quarazza," said Mademoiselle. Her voice became chilly. "When men are moved from the course of their duty by senora I feel no pity for them."

"I feel no pity for them," said Elton. "I feel no pity for them."

"I feel no pity for them," said Elton. "I feel no pity for them."

Rivage. He made no effort to minimize the tragic seriousness of his plight. He faced the cold facts without equivocation. He was in effect a prisoner of the German secret service, as much a prisoner as if he had been held in that barred room of the count's chateau on Lake Geneva. They would watch his every move and action, keep him hedged in with a squad of alert leg operatives. He reasoned there had been considerable more than empty formality in the tapping of his veins for the absurd secret service oath.

Having subscribed to the obligation, even with open reservations, he knew that, in German eyes, he was bound by its laws. An attempt at escape would give his shadows the right to shoot him down without qualms—and if there should be embarrassment over such a tragedy, the legations could be shown sub rosa that Elton was that most despised of creatures, the double spy.

(To be continued tomorrow)
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DAYS CREEK HIGH SCHOOL TO GIVE COMEDY FRIDAY

"For the Love of Mike," a three-act comedy, was chosen by the senior class of the Days Creek high school as its class play. It will be presented at the high school auditorium Friday evening, April 17th.

The play is a hilarious comedy involving Mike, supposedly a rich young man who is working as a chauffeur for the fun of it, and two young ladies, the housemaid and a spinster lady who have matrimonial designs on him. Aunt Emma, guardian of the two young ladies, lends color to the action.

The character of Aunt Emma Hawkins is played by Lavern Racher; Grace Howard, her niece, by Gladys Ullam; Margaret Howard, another niece, by Florence Michale; Miss Hattie, an old maid, by Priscilla Worthington; Katie, the maid, by Gail Montgomery; and Mike Osborne, the chauffeur, by John Hutchinson.

The cast has been working hard and has the play well prepared. The proceeds from the show will be expended by the senior class in providing front curtains for the high school stage.

Rattler Title Claimed
HAYDEN, Ariz.—Roy, Charles and Allen Bishop and Clarence Morrison of Hayden claim the rattlesnake hunting championship of Arizona as the result of a recent excursion during which they killed 258 diamond-back rattlers. In addition to trapping eight alive, which they gave to the University of Arizona.

Coyote Captured Barehanded
BOSHAM, Tex.—Earl Carlin, farmer near here, captured a coyote barehanded recently when his dogs trapped the animal and Carlin was without ammunition. He took the coyote home and chained it in his yard.

The new Pontiac is making new friends and keeping the old. Phone 100 for demonstration.—Adv.

Safe After Six Days



Taken from the deck of the S. S. Cerigo, which rescued him, this photo shows Chief Naval Aviation Pilot, Verne Warren Harshman, in his rubber boat in which he had floated about the Pacific ocean for six days. During the fleet maneuvers off Panama, Harshman was forced to drop his plane on the water owing to fuel shortage. The craft foundered and the pilot had to take to his rubber boat. His rescue is regarded as something of a miracle.

HOOVER REGIME RAPPED BY SHOUSE

Democratic Chief Assails Alleged Incompetency and Prohibition.

(Associated Press Special Wire)
LOS ANGELES, April 14.—Prediction that the democratic party would win the next presidency, made by Chairman J. J. Shouse of the democratic national executive committee, resounded through California today.

This statement, and a general denunciation of the republican administration were the high lights of Shouse's address here last night at a Jefferson day dinner.

"For more than two years," Shouse said, "the government of the United States has simply drifted. An harassed and indignant nation is preparing, if it read the auguries correctly, to rid itself of the most inept, inadequate and incompetent administration that fate has brought to Washington in at least two decades."

"We have never had action where postponement was possible. We have had avoidance of responsibility when leadership was poignantly required. Not only has nothing been done, but we have not even had any statement of policy or principle that was not so hedged about with qualifications and so obscured by evasions that nobody could clearly read its meaning."

Shouse urged California to aid in turning the present president, a California by adoption, out of the white house and put a democrat there instead. He launched into an attack on prohibition and denounced the tariff measure enacted by congress last year as "an abomination" and a "monstrosity."

He charged that President Hoover actually failed the country in the country in the two major issues confronting his administration—farm relief and tariff.

Scott Bullitt, democratic national committeeman from the state of Washington told the gathering of

Spelling Champion



Perry Frank, of Egg Harbor, N. J., proudly displays the championship plaque which he won in the annual inter-scholastic spelling championship. The coveted trophy was won from a field of contestants from 27 high schools of three states.

approximately a thousand that he is "for Franklin D. Roosevelt for President." He said he "believed that when the time comes, 'Roosevelt will be nominated, and by none other than Alfred E. Smith."

"Power," he said, "will be the dominant issue at the next election. A year from now it will be a greater issue than prohibition."

One of the seven bills upon which Cincinnati's bill is being leveled to make room for the new \$42,000,000 railroad terminal.

The new Pontiac is making new friends and keeping the old. Phone 100 for demonstration.—Adv.

Arundel, piano tuner. Phone 159-L.

INNER WORKINGS OF BOOZE RING TOLD

Under Cover Agent Tells of System at Brown-Tooze Trial.

(Associated Press Special Wire)

PORTLAND, Ore., April 14.—The inner workings of what government operatives declare was one of the largest liquor rings ever to operate in the Pacific northwest, were further exposed today by L. I. Moon, under-cover agent, who testified in the federal court trial of 18 defendants in the Tooze-Brown liquor conspiracy case.

Moon, who followed Jack Grant, another secret agent, to the witness stand, testified that he, like Grant, worked with the syndicate to learn its secrets.

He said he made frequent deliveries of liquor to downtown hotels in Portland when Brown was standing in the doorway. If Brown was not there, Moon testified, he did not make the delivery.

Grant had testified that, and Moon made many delivery trips to various hotels, apartments and garages in the city. They were paid 50 cents a gallon, Grant said, for each gallon delivered. He testified that Victor Scholz, a defendant, and reputed collection agent for the group, had told him to call Tooze in case he was "knocked over."

Moon testified that Scholz had warned him to be "very careful" in his contacts with Brown, because "the federal agents are hot on his trail and if he gets caught the whole gang will be arrested and charged with conspiracy."

The under-cover agent's testimony was punctuated with the clink of bottles brought into the court room as evidence. More than 20 bottles had accumulated, representing, Moon said, samples of the various "loads" he delivered for the syndicate.

Phone 135 when you have news items.

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News-Review—telephone 135.

Twelve You and Me!
DESMOND DIVORCE
CUPID

Dad Says:
If old Desperate Desmond Divorce keeps on improving his pitching arm, Danny Cupid will stop making any more home runs.

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Bad Stomach Cause of Bad Skin

You can't expect to have a good clear fresh-looking complexion if your stomach is weak and disordered.

Undigested food sends poisons through your whole body, pimples appear on your face, skin grows sallow and moist and loses its color. Your tongue becomes coated, breath most unpleasant. But these troubles will end quickly and skin clear up if you will start today taking that simple herbal compound known to druggists as T-Liac.

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