

## SERIAL STORY

## JOAN OF ARKANSAS

BY JERRY BRONDFIELD

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

JOAN JOHNSON—a mysterious, cold, glamorous girl of the Tech campus.

KEITH RHODES—Tech's star footballer, headed for All-American honors.

DAN WEBBER—the blocking back who clears Keith's way, a steady, industrious student.

YESTERDAY: Rocco goes in to see the football game. Sam decides to fix the car, carelessly leaves his gun under his coat. Dan is almost helpless with his hands tied, but Joan has a plan. She whispers to Dan: "I'm going to set this place on fire!"

CHAPTER XXVII  
Dan's eyes opened wide with amazement as Joan turned away. "Set the place on fire, . . . What did she mean?"

He could tell from her actions that she intended to do something wild in operation, but this—this—this—this—just getting desperate. It was sheer disaster.

Joan looked at her watch. It was 12:30. There wasn't much time. She was concerned not only with escaping, but in getting Dan back in time for the game. . . . for the kickoff, if possible.

She went to the sink and made a pretense of scrubbing the coffee pot, taking longer than usual while she chartered her next move. She was astounded that her nerves were holding up so well.

Steady, now . . . no slips. She knew exactly what she was going to do . . . no reason why it couldn't be a perfect job. Just like following directions if she were cool.

She filled the pot with water, glanced once at Dan, . . . nodded imperceptibly at the magazine spread in front of him.

He opened his mouth, shook his head slightly, signifying his ignorance. Then he got it. She wanted him to pretend he was reading in case Big Ed looked up suddenly.

She smiled confidently and he lowered his eyes. Might as well let her play her hand to the hilt. Joan placed the pot on the stove. "Get a match?" she called to Big Ed. Her voice was steady.

He looked up. . . . tossed her a book of paper matches and resumed his game of solitaire.

She struck one . . . made a pretense of lighting a burner, but purposely allowed the match to go out. She struck another . . . repeated the maneuver.

"These wicks must be all dried out," she announced out loud. "Maybe I better add a little coal-oil."

Big Ed grunted something but didn't look up.

Joan reached for the glass, gallon jar of fuel in the corner. Her heart pounded as though it might burst from her body. No faltering now . . . this was the last step.

Just once she thought she might not be able to go through with it. She looked at Dan and her courage was renewed.

Her fingers shook as she lit another match . . . dropped it to the floor and hoped it would keep burning. It did. Flickered brightly. As silently as possible she dropped another.

She glanced one quick glance at Big Ed. Now . . .

Breathing a prayer, she swung the glass jar hard against the corner of the stove and sprang backward in the same movement.

There was a mighty "whoosh" as the flood of coal oil hit one of the burning matches. Joan barely got out of the way in time.

Big Ed leaped to his feet with an oath as a solid sheet of flame roared angrily in the air.

"You damn, damn, you . . . he screamed. "You clumsy!"

He sprang toward the flames, looked for something to beat them out with and saw it was hopeless.

The floor, dry as tinder, was drenched with the fuel. The place would be roaring in five minutes. Joan retreated against the wall, her hands shielding her face. She backed along the wall toward Sam's coat. Now she was right in front of it.

"We gotta get out here!" Big Ed shouted. "This place ain't gonna last long!" Again he cursed her apparent stupidity.

Flustered, he ran to the window, pushed it up and shouted to Sam in the barn.

"Sam . . . hey Sam!" he shrieked. "Get that car started, quick. This joint's on fire!"

When he turned around he found himself staring at the muzzle of a gun. That brief moment was all Joan had needed.

"Stand back against that other wall or I'll shoot!" Joan cried. She aimed the gun directly at his stomach. "I mean it," she added, desperately.

Big Ed stopped short. His face grew livid. His eyes blazed with a light that almost matched the flames, and his lips mouthed wordless words.

His right hand twitched nervously toward his pocket but Joan stopped him with a movement of the gun.

floor had engulfed one side of the house. The smoke was getting thicker.

"You," Dan said to Big Ed. "Move away from that door." Big Ed moved suddenly out of sight as Sam rushed up to the house.

"Hey . . . hey, what the hell!" he shrieked, storming inside. His eyes popped as Dan stopped out and covered him with the gun.

"Okay," Dan grated. "Outside both of you." He motioned with the gun. "Into the back of the car, there, quick!"

Big Ed snarled, looked as though he might balk.

"Get in there or I'll blow your brains out," Dan said softly. "And keep your hands away from that pocket. In fact," he continued, "you'd better take that coat off easy now . . . so I can watch you."

Big Ed was desperate but helpless. He slid out of the coat and dropped it to the ground; the gun still in the pocket.

Dan relaxed. "Now get in there."

"You drive," Dan said to Joan. "I'll keep an eye on our little playmates here."

Joan threw the car into gear and they swung down toward the road.

Dan grinned back at them. "Hope you have this hot running smoothie now, Sammy old boy. I'd hate to have a breakdown now."

Sam cursed under his breath. (To be continued)

## Around the County

## CANYONVILLE

CANYONVILLE, Nov. 17.—E. R. Cockrane of Roseburg spent Sunday here visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Paulson and family of Astoria visited relatives here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Elliott and family were dinner guests at the home of Edna Ross Sunday.

John Hoskins went to Medford Wednesday where he expects to work.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Houston and small son of Days Creek visited relatives here Tuesday.

Mr. Stanley Eichenauer, Mrs. O. L. Lewis and son, Owen, went to Holland Sunday to visit Mr. Lewis who is employed there.

Oreille McGee, who has been employed by the forest service at Cave City, has returned home for the winter.

Vern Porter of Eugene spent the weekend at the H. J. Hush home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Poole were shopping in Roseburg Monday.

Lola DeVore, Anna May Manley, North and Gail Madison and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sawyer motored to Haddon Sunday.

Rev. Chapelle of Roseburg was in town Tuesday visiting friends and attending to business.

Jack De Vore and Jess Shambrook returned Saturday from their auto near Riddle where they worked last week.

Ray Bartley spent the weekend duck hunting at Fort Klamath. Despite the fact that the weather was not favorable he succeeded in bringing home several nice ones.

Ella Beak spent the weekend visiting at Winchester with her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Beak.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Swift of Sprague, Wash., are visiting for several days with their daughter, Lola Hamilton. They will go to California before returning home.

John Godfrey of Eugene has been visiting at the Roy Roe home.

Bernice Holston and daughter, Leona, were shopping in Roseburg Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Cooper is very ill with an attack of poison oak.

Several persons escaped serious injury Sunday when a car driven by Dan Golin of Milo collided with a truck loaded with wood, driven by Clifford Beale, on a curve near the dam north of town.

Rev. Perry Smith of Roseburg and Miss Chase, field secretary of the Episcopal church of Portland, called on friends here Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Kimmel attended the football game at Eugene Saturday and then went to Corvallis to spend Sunday with their son, Carl, who attends college there.

In Javotte P. Ray gave a very interesting and educational lecture at the local school Monday on the prehistoric remains of the cliff dwellers in Arizona. He also exhibited numerous specimens which he excavated there.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy McGee and daughter, Joan, spent the weekend at Gaudinier, visiting at the home of Mrs. McGee's mother, Mrs. F. S. Sauter.

Fred Walter was arrested Friday evening on the charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. He was retained in the city jail until Monday when he was arraigned before Judge T. L. Weaver, who imposed a sentence of six months in the county jail. The sentence was suspended, however, on the condition that he leave town immediately.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ransburg and family and Alvin Moss were dinner guests at the Ray Paulson home Sunday.

The auto wrecking yard north of town, formerly operated by Wayne Brady, has been taken over by Raymond and James Hayes of Roseburg. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hayes, who are now in Illinois, are expected to join them in two weeks.

WILBUR

WILBUR, Nov. 16.—Joan Humphreys and daughter, Alice, went to Eugene Saturday, to attend the Oregon State football game. They also visited at the home of the

## OUR BOARDING HOUSE

with

## Major Hoople

EGAD, MR. TWIGGS, MY OWN RESEARCH INTO THE VEGETABLE KINGDOM CORROBORATES PLATO'S LEGENDS ABOUT A VAST CONTINENT, NOW SUBMERGED, BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA—THE LOST ATLANTIS! TAKE THE BANANA, FOR INSTANCE, A SEEDLESS PLANT AS YOU MUST BE AWARE—HAR-RUMPH!—HOW DID THE BANANA SPREAD FROM AFRICA TO SOUTH AMERICA BUT BY LAND?



I NEVER TRAILED THE BANANA, MAJOR, BUT YOUR LOGIC IS AS STRONG AS A CARLOAD OF GOATS. I SUPPOSE THE BANANA MADE THE JOURNEY OVERLAND BY TRAIN—IN A BOX LUNCH ALONG WITH SOME HARD-BOILED EGGS!



former's brother-in-law, E. A. Denton.

W. E. Thompson went to Scottsburg Saturday to attend the funeral of the late Mrs. Riley Andrews.

Ivan Bridge spent the weekend here with his family. He is employed at Reedport.

Mrs. Grace Boyd, of Sutherlin, left for San Francisco recently, after spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rockhill.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Wilson and family of Corvallis spent the weekend with Mrs. Wilson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Grace.

Ralph and Roy Irving, of Roseburg, are here with their grandnephew, Mrs. Lela Irving, who is taking care of them during the illness of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Irving.

W. B. Branning and daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thorstein from East Grand Forks, Minn., arrived here Monday to spend a few days visiting Mr. and Mrs. Rockhill. Mr. Branning is a brother of Mrs. Rockhill. She had Mr. Roy Smith and two sons, not seen him for thirty-five years.

Donald and Dick, of Marshfield, returned to their home Sunday for a week's visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. George Englund, of Roseburg, and daughter, Sylvia, were all-day guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hart Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parker spent Sunday at Divide, visiting Mrs. Parker's sister, Mrs. J. P. McKay.

Roy Putnam, assistant division engineer for the S. P. company with headquarters at Portland, and former roadmaster of the Eugene district, called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Parker Wednesday.

Miss Alberta Short, of Roseburg, is spending a few days here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Short. Miss Short is a nurse at Mercy hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Snell and Charley Luhnman, from Medford, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Smith over Armistice day.

Mr. Joe Smith, of Oakland, is here visiting with her sons, Virgil, and Lloyd Smith for a few days.

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## POISON-SPOUTING TANK NEW WEAPON

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—(AP) Poison gas warfare has a new weapon ready for the battlefield.

It is the chemical tank, a squat, speedy, steel-shelled caterpillar, whose muzzles, instead of guns, are mostly poison liquids and gases.

This tank is described by Lt. Col. Augustin M. Prentiss, U. S. A., chemical warfare service, as one of the most formidable methods of attack yet devised.

It is one of the great authorities on gas warfare.

"Chemical tanks have the power," he writes in the Chemical Warfare Bulletin, "to suddenly release enormous concentrations of non-persistent lethal gas in such strength as to readily break through any military gas mask."

The persistent gases are those which float in the air and poison the lungs. Their potency as weapons was greatly reduced by gas masks in the World War.

But the chemical tanks may prove so effective, Col. Prentiss says, an entirely new type of gas mask will be needed for protection. This mask would shut out all outside air and keep its wearer alive by breathing oxygen stored inside the mask.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 16.—(AP)—A fair-sized business was reported today by 24 young lawyers conducting neighborhood offices where you can buy legal advice—like your groceries—just around the corner in bargain prices.

The "31 and up" service, first of its kind in the country, was tossed on the counter two weeks ago for a year-long experiment by the local chapter of the national lawyers' guild.

Sponsors hope to determine whether it is necessary in addition to providing legal advice at moderate fees, to carry it to clients in neighborhood offices instead of having them come and get it at downtown offices.

"We haven't been swamped with clients," said Robert T. Abraham, chairman of a supervising committee. "But the initial response has been good. The plan is neither charity nor philanthropy. It is an attempt to reach new clients (with low bracket incomes) who never before have used lawyers' services."

The proximity of the neighborhood office to the client, Abraham said, is designed to dispel a feeling by some that legal service is beyond their reach and to create something akin to neighborliness enjoyed by the country practitioners.

Tickets are now on sale at the Associated Students ticket office in McArthur court and mail orders will be held in reservation to within a half hour of the show.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 16.—(AP)—Raymond J. Kelly, national commander of the American Legion, chose his 54th birthday today to denounce Earl Browder and Fritz Kuhn, two leaders of the communist movement and organizers in the United States for "blighting the lives of millions of Americans."

"Behind the masks of American citizenship," Kelly declared in a statement, "these two men are the most dangerous enemies of our country."

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## WAR DENOUNCED BY VANCOUVER MAYOR

Neither Side Will Win in 'Economic Insanity' of Europe, He Asserts.

SEATTLE, Nov. 17.—(AP)—De W. Lyle Telford, mayor of Vancouver, B. C., told the Washington Commonwealth federation last night that Canadians are courageous people willing to readily give their lives "if they know what they are giving them for."

But, he said, "we are not sure yet just what we are fighting for. There's a lot of excitement and some people think they know why there is a war but nobody has told yet what it's all about."

He termed the present European war "economic insanity," adding "neither the victor nor the vanquished will win this time. They didn't last time."

"Great Britain," he said, "financed Germany. It loaned them a lot of money. Canada sent millions of pounds of nickel to Germany but now the darn stuff is coming back a lot faster than it went over—in arms and bullets designed to kill those who sent it over."

"British money built Germany's factories and institutions. Now war is declared so we must go over and blow them up. Then eventually when the war is over our taxpayers will be asked for money loans to build up the factories and institutions we have just blown up."

He said that Canada had a population of 11,300,000 of which about 1,000,000 have been on relief.

"But now we haven't so many on relief," he said, "for some who were going off to war. War—that's a new form of relief. We're afraid of war and we're desperately afraid of peace. Why if we had peace tonight we'd have the old relief problem right back again, only worse, because we'd have lost money. We couldn't properly look after them before the war and we couldn't look after them if peace came tonight."

"You in this nation," he said, "can make no finer contribution to the civilized world than by keeping your heads, keeping cool, keeping your democratic processes working and continuing your efforts to improve the standards and social conditions of your citizens."

Telford, who sits in the British Columbia legislature as an independent after his election as mayor last December forced him to resign as the Cooperative Commonwealth federation's member in the house, said he will speak along the same lines in the legislature late today.

SALEM, Nov. 16.—(AP)—Classification of a 1939 law adopting a new code relative to foreclosure of delinquent taxes was sought today in a suit filed in Marion county circuit court asking for a declaratory judgment.

The suit, filed by Leon N.

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