

SERIAL STORY

CHRISTMAS RUSH

BY TOM HORNER

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YESTERDAY Y. F. Connelly says she'll fine, brings the girls home. Martha promises they may go to the party late. If they will remain at home to watch the New Year in. The doctor is called. There's been an accident on the highway. One man killed, another seriously injured. After he leaves, the highway patrol calls again, reports one of the cars bears a university license. The car belongs to Valerie Parks.

THREE HOURS OF 1941 CHAPTER X

All automobile accidents look alike. Hugh Connelly thought, as he left his car, pushed his way through the crowd of morbidly curious who jammed the scene. Traffic blocked for half a mile; flashlight-waving patrol officers, trying to keep cars moving. People jumping from their cars, rumpling up for a close view. A white-faced woman hurrying back to her own sedan. Headlights concentrated on a single, small area. Automobiles twisted into weird, unreal shapes.

"He saw the officer who had summoned him. 'Hello, Harry. This looks like a bad one.' 'The patrolman took his arm. 'It's bad, Doc. This fellow over here,' he motioned with his flashlight. 'Think he's gone. You'd better take a look, though.' The light focused on a still form on the pavement. Dr. Connelly adjusted his stethoscope, knelt beside the still figure.

"Probably never knew what hit him," Hugh said. "How about the others?"

"There's another fellow in a bad way beside the car in the ditch. He was still breathing when I left him."

"The flashlight beam flicked over the outlines of a long, expensive coupe. The car seemed strangely familiar. Hugh dismissed the thought as he slipped down the bank, hurried to the injured man. The patrolman's light shone full on a white-blood-smeared face.

"This is my boy," Dr. Connelly said in a tight, strained voice. "This is my son, Jerry."

Valerie saw the doctor at that same instant. "Pushed toward him screaming. 'It was all his fault! He's wrecked my car—my new car! I'll be scared for life! He made me drive over here! I didn't want to! Now he's wrecked my car!'"

"Valerie, please," Hugh said quietly. "You're a bit hysterical. Try to calm down a bit. 'That's right,' her voice shrilled. 'Look after your own boy. Let me die. I could bleed to death for all you care.' 'Valerie, stop that screaming! Hugh Connelly's voice snapped the command. 'Harry, let's have a light. He's slumped over the wheel. 'You've got a scalp wound, but it's stopped bleeding already. 'The wall of a stream came from the highway. 'I'll send you in to the hospital for a thorough check. Harry, take her up to the ambulance; send a stretcher over here.'"

"He did not see them go. He did not hear Valerie's screamed accusations. He was on his knees in the snow, beside Jerry, listening for a heart beat.

"Jerry! Jerry!" he whispered. "My boy!"

"They brought the stretcher, lifted Jerry carefully on to it, climbed back to the roadway. 'Is he hurt bad, Doc?' the patrolman asked.

"Congestion, possible skull fracture. Can't say for sure. His arm is broken, may have internal injuries. Pulse is strong. That's a good sign." He walked as a white-clad internist, the stretcher into place. Valerie was moaning, more quietly now, in a seat near the front.

"I'll go on now, Harry," the doctor said. "Nothing I can do for that other fellow." He started into the ambulance. "Have someone drive my car in."

"But, Doc, there's a man and a woman pretty bad cut up in the farmhouse across the road." Hugh turned to the internist. "Administer adrenaline if necessary. Get Johnson. Tell him to operate, whether I get there or not. He's in charge."

He did not look back as the ambulance carried Jerry away from him.

Later, in the farmhouse as he swabbed glass from cuts, he heard the story of the accident. This man and woman were not serious.

"We were coming down the road behind this big green coupe," the man told him. "The boy wasn't driving fast and he was on his own side of the road."

"Then this other fellow—the one that got killed—came to a halt, just weaving from side to side. He must have been doing 50 or 60. The boy in the coupe swung out the pavement but this fellow hit his left front fender."

"That's about all I remember. Next thing I knew this car was rolling over and over toward us and we crashed into it. It crashed into us before we could stop. The coupe went off into the ditch."

"My wife and I crawled out—we didn't know we were so cut up then—and we saw there wasn't much to be done for the guy on the highway. We helped get the girl out of the coupe. She kept screaming. Later, her car and then some other people stopped and made us come over here."

"That's what all the tracks show," Doc. Harry put in. "I checked them myself. It sure wasn't your boy's fault."

Hugh nodded as he applied a final strip of tape. "There's a surgeon at the hospital to look after Jerry. I wanted to be sure you two went all right. I'm going in now. You and your wife better come along. Give you a complete check, just to make sure we haven't missed any broken bones."

Martha Connelly stared at the blue-gray walls of the hospital waiting room, trying to keep from screaming. "Oh, Hugh, why aren't you here? Why didn't you come with him?"

Beside her on the wicker divan, Sheila and Kathleen, still in party formal, clung to her hands. Mary Wardle stood beside the door, twisting a handkerchief into a filmy rag.

Upstairs nurses hurried in and out of the operating room; the surgeon, Johnson, jammed all mangled drivers as he scrubbed his hands.

It seemed like hours before Martha heard Hugh's car stop outside, heard his footsteps in the hall. His arms enfolding all of them.

"It may not be as bad as you think," he said, but his words lacked conviction. "I was able to give him only a quick examination out there. Don't jump to conclusions. He's got a few broken bones, but he'll come out of this all right. He's got a stout heart, and that's half the battle."

"I'll be upstairs while Johnson operates. Let you know how he is just as soon as I can. Don't worry now, Jerry's going to make this."

He hurried up the stairs. Martha glanced at the clock—3:30 a. m. A new year only three hours old. And so much had been crammed into that three hours.

It seemed like three years since Kathleen had turned from the phone, told her that Valerie's car was wrecked. Somehow she knew, by some intuition, every another possession, that Jerry was hurt, even before the superintendent of the hospital called. But how seriously was he hurt? Even now she did not know.

She recalled now the bumps and falls Jerry had suffered learning to walk. "Hardhead," Hugh had called his son then because a bump never seemed to bother him. Would he still be "Hardhead" tonight?

Her thoughts raced on, far outdistancing the crawling minute hand of the office clock. Finally, as if from a great distance, she heard a nurse say: "Will you come upstairs now, Mrs. Connelly. Doctor wants you and the girls to come up." (To be continued)

Basketeers of U. of O. Pummel Utah, 51 to 15

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 3.—(AP)—The barnstorming University of Utah basketball team retreated from Eugene today, its entrance into Oregon spoiled by a 51-to-15 whacking at the hands of University of Oregon last night.

But the Utes wondered whether they might not be jumping from the trying pan into the fire. They moved to Corvallis for games tonight and Saturday against Oregon State college, champions of the Pacific Coast conference northern division last year.

A zone defense by the tall Oregon team baffled the Utes. They were scored a throat, and by halftime trailed Oregon, 26 to 9.

Hank Anderson took advantage of his 6 feet 7 inches to score 17 points. Oregon's third string blanketed Utah through the final ten minutes.

Tennile

TENNILE, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Marie Gerty and daughter, Margbeth, of Portland, are spending the holidays visiting her mother, Mrs. Minnie Rathkey.

Mr. and Mrs. James Divine and daughter, Marie of Olalla, and Mr. and Mrs. L. M. McCaffrey were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Henry.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Cabot spent New Year's eve with Mr. and Mrs. Clair Vaughn, in Eugene.

Among those to gather at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Howard, Saturday, to butcher hogs were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Heather, of Olalla, Mr. and Mrs. Purly Hall, and Clair Coats. At the noon hour the ladies served a delicious pot-luck dinner.

Purly Hahn butchered two pigs for Mrs. Nettie Cabot, last Tuesday.

L. M. McCaffrey was transacting business in Roseburg Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Albro and family are recovering from a severe case of the flu.

Leon Simpson is busy cutting his winter's wood on the Roy Gager place.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Houre were shopping and transacting business in Roseburg Tuesday.

J. M. Cabot and son, Jack, hauled wood from Mr. Taylor's place near Camas mountain Tuesday morning for J. L. Cabot.

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

with

Major Hoople



No Foreign War Committee's Chairman With His Family



Verne Marshall, chairman of the No Foreign War Committee, pictured in a holiday gathering with his family at his Cedar Rapids, Ia., home. Left to right, front: Jennine, 21; John Randolph, 4; Marie Louise, 7; Barbara, 20; Mrs. Marshall. Rear row: Patricia, 18; Frances, 14; and Mr. Marshall.

Social Security Benefit Boost Is Being Discussed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—(AP)—Greater social security benefits for old people were advocated today by several legislators amid increasing congressional suggestions for changes in the act.

Discussion centered about two possible revisions: A flat federal monthly grant of \$20 to \$50 to persons over 60 or 65. A change in the present formula of equal federal and state contributions so that the government in the future would provide \$2 to the state's \$1 up to a designated maximum.

Senator Downey (D., Calif.) said he wanted the flat federal payment—a proposal which some legislators contended would meet with White House approval.

Under that program, aged persons would receive a monthly check from the federal government plus any additional sum provided by their states.

The proposal to change existing matching requirements came from Senator Connally (D., Tex.), a member of the Finance committee. Connally suggested that the government match the state's obligation on a two-to-one basis up to a maximum total of \$15 a month.

At present, the government matches state funds on a \$1 for \$1 basis up to a maximum monthly benefit of \$40.

As an example of Connally's plan, a state could put up \$5 and the government would provide \$10, making a total payment of \$15 monthly. If the state wished to appropriate additional money the government would match it on a 50-50 basis up to a total of individual benefit of \$10 to \$50.

President Roosevelt was expected to touch on the subject in his annual "state of the nation" address to congress Monday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—(AP)—The social security board had under consideration today a plan of the Oregon employes' compensation committee for experience rating in determining social security tax rates in the state.

The board declined to discuss the plan other than to say it was being studied and analyzed. Oregon asked if it permitted to make the plan effective next July 1.

Shrine's Potentate Sent To Hospital by Illness

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—(AP)—George E. Olendorf, 65, the Shrine's imperial potentate, rested in a hospital here today after an attack of illness yesterday forced cancellation of a speaking engagement.

Doctors said Olendorf was not in a serious condition, but they advised a heart examination and at least two days of rest for observation.

Olendorf has maintained a strenuous schedule of conferences since leaving his home in Springfield, Mo.

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Mexico's Exiled Former President Plans to Return

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Jan. 3.—(AP)—Mexico's one-time hero and war-rival-president, Gen. Plutarco Elias Calles, is going back to his native land, from which he was forced into dramatic exile in April, 1936.

The 63-year-old former chieftain, whose 11-year rule of turbulent Mexican politics won him the title of "Iron Man," said his plan to return to Mexico City were not definite, but were "in the making."

Calles hopes to live in peace as a "retired citizen" and lead the secluded and tranquil life which has marked his more than four years residence in San Diego.

The announcement that Calles was planning to return to Mexico, came a few days after he broke his long silence on that nation's political affairs by urging his countrymen to support the administration of the newly-elected president, Avila Camacho, "in order to save the nation in these hours of world unrest."

Calles attributed his expulsion to his opposition to what he termed the communistic tendencies of the administration of Lázaro Cardenas, who was succeeded as president last month by Camacho. Cardenas contended Calles was exiled because he carried on "criminal labor against the Mexican revolution."

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Reassures U. S. On Aluminum

Faced with possible shortages of aluminum, defense commissioner Edward R. Stettinius Jr. promised that there would be ample production for defense needs. He's pictured above in Washington, pointing to chart showing new potential capacity of aluminum industry exceeds defense demands.



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MISSES' HATS—10c Special clearance price on misses' and ladies' knit hats, berets, rollers, etc. Values to 79c, choice 10c. See them at Carr's where you save. (Adv.)

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Umpqua Packing Co. REEDSPORT Pays 50 cents under Portland price for top hogs, 160 to 220 lbs. Need 100 a week. Farmers get together, I can haul 40 to 45 in load. If you haul yourself, will pay 25 cents under Portland price, weighed at plant. Write or phone.

JOHN DEERE DAY! Mark Jan. 8 on your calendar and come in for our free movies and open house. Lunch will be served at noon. Bring your friends. DOUGLAS COUNTY Farm Bureau Co-op. Exch. ROSEBURG, OREGON

Shopping Without Hopping! In the hospital amphitheater a man in white is about to operate. His eyes are intent upon the X-ray negative brightly illumined on the screen. The X-ray is an indispensable guide—without it he would have to make uncertain, dangerous probings. The advertisements are your guides to intelligent buying. Like the surgeon, YOU CAN AVOID WASTED EFFORT AND SAVE TIME BY CHARTING YOUR COURSE BEFORE YOU ACT. Relax in your favorite easy chair and look through the interesting pages of this paper. The advertisements are store windows brought to your home for comfortable inspection. AVOID AIMLESS HOPPING FROM STORE TO STORE, TRYING TO FIND WHAT YOU WANT! Read the advertisements—then go DIRECT to the stores that have what you need, at the prices you want to pay!

COLD WEATHER SPECIALS Hot Chocolate, Fudge, Fudge Caramel and Holiday Fruit SUNDAES 15c DOUGLAS COUNTY CREAMERY

"Sure I'm a copy-cat!" Madam, we're sorry, but how were we to know? Yes, we treat them like kings at the Imperial and Roosevelt. We feast them like royalty. We serve them with deep respect. We even let them breakfast in bed at no extra cost. But, how were we to know that they are copy-cats. That they would demand the same service at home. Want revenge? Better stop at the Imperial or Roosevelt when in Portland. Convenient too, just a block or two from the center of things... shops, stores, banks and theatres. In Portland's IMPERIAL HOTEL ROOSEVELT HOTEL 5 W. PARK AT BALMORAL Where You Live Like a King but the Tax is Low!

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