

SERIAL STORY

CONSCRIPT'S WIFE

BY BETTY WALLACE

COPYRIGHT, 1941, NEA SERVICE, INC.

YESTERDAY: Suzanne be-
lieves that Paul still loves Mar-
tha, begs Martha to quit seeing
him. The foursome, with Bill
and Martha, was just to give
Paul a chance to be with Bill's
wife. Martha angrily denies
any hint of an affair with Paul
and Suzanne agrees Martha is
innocent. As she leaves, however,
she threatens to tell Bill if Mar-
tha goes on seeing Paul.

IF BILL KNEW
CHAPTER VII

For a long moment, after Su-
zanne's last words left her lips,
they didn't quite sink in. The
small girl with red hair, huddled
on the sofa, didn't quite under-
stand the enormity of what she
had heard until Suzanne was
reaching for the doorknob.

"Wait a minute, Suzanne!" She
ran to her. "What do you mean,
someone might tell Bill? Oh, you
couldn't—you wouldn't dare—go
to him with a lie like that!"

"Lie? I wouldn't lie. There's
no need. It's true that Paul's in
love with you, and that you've
been seeing him every night,
even after I refused to come
along and play chaperone."

Martha's mouth was dry, a lit-
tle pulse hammered in her
throat. "But I didn't mean any-
thing—it was innocent—and Bill
trusts Paul. You can't do this!
You can't come into our lives
and—"

"I didn't say I would," Suzanne
told her evenly. "I merely said
that it wouldn't be very nice if
someone did."

Then, as if Martha's shock and
misery had gotten through to
her, she leaned impulsively over
her. "Look, darling, I know you.
And I know Paul. He's held him-
self in leash, he's suffered but he
hasn't made love to you. The
only thing I'm asking is that you
look the facts in the face. Quit
seeing him."

Once more her voice vibrated
with passion. "Give me a chance
to get him back!"

When the door closed behind
Suzanne, she left ruin behind.
The world of simple friendship,
of trusting and uncomplicated
companionship which had sprung
up between Martha and Paul,
since that day she told him, "I'm
going to marry Bill. But can't
we be friends?" was wrecked for
ever.

Never again could she be so
casually cool with him. Never
again could she laugh and talk
and dance with him and remain
blind to the truth she had not
seen before—that he loved her.
Loved her enough to torture him-
self endlessly by seeing her with
Bill, by visiting in the apart-
ment where she lived as Bill's
wife.

Unwilling pity shook her. Poor
Paul. He had had a raw deal
from her right from the start.
But her heart said it wasn't her
fault that Bill Marshall's blue
eyes had stirred depths in her
she herself had never dreamed
were there. It wasn't her fault
that the camaraderie, the serene
content she had accepted as love
with Paul, had turned out not
to be love at all. Not after she
tasted the heady wine, the magic
ecstasy of the touch of Bill's
hand, the sound of his voice, the
feel of his lips on hers.

Could it be that for Paul there
was magic and wonder only with
her? Oh, he shouldn't have gone
on clinging to the ghost of some-
thing that was dead! He should
have turned to Suzanne.

But Martha knew, achingly,
that love isn't like that. All the
counsels of common sense, all
the old teachings she had been
taught at home of love, honor
and duty, had directed that—
even though Bill's blue eyes had
walked something to singing
life inside her, that first time
still she had no right to go on
seeing him. Had no right to let
him kiss her while Paul's ring
was on her finger.

Practical considerations would
have directed that Paul, with
money of his own and a fine po-
sition, was the better man to
marry. He could have bought
her so much that she and Bill
had gone without. There would
have been no small apartment,
but a big house. No job to wake
up to each morning. No dilap-
idated Peg, but a good car, a new
car.

And yet, she hadn't even given
those things a single thought.
Her whole heart was Bill's—
simply, forever and beyond de-
nial.

Once she had heard some-
where that it didn't matter
whether or not you were wildly
in love with the person you mar-
ried at the time you married
him. "After 10 years," someone
had said, "you love him anyway."
The things you two have gone
through together cement you
closer than any fleeting pos-
sion."

She didn't sleep that night. She
patted the bed beside her, when
at last she got in, and Butch
leaped up. Huddled close to his
warm body, she lay thinking and
thinking. She mustn't see Paul
alone any more. That much was
clear.

Suzanne had accomplished
what she set out to do!
"Give me a chance to get him
back," she had cried.

"Oh, Bill," Martha wept storm-
ily, "Bill, why did they ever draft
you? You never should have
gone away from me. Never."

The next morning in the of-
fice, it was as if everything had
changed. The sunny room was
bleak, the shadows cast by the
Venetian blinds seemed like bars.
The office was a cage. She
ought to leave it. Never see
Paul again, not even here. But
now she needed her job.

When Paul came in, she
couldn't help the little tautness
that went over her. She couldn't
help looking at him in a way she
had never looked at him before.

As always, there was a pipe in
his mouth. As always, he bid her
a cheerful good morning. She an-
swered almost inaudibly, and
bent her head low over the type-
writer as he went into the priv-
ate office.

Through the long morning, she
couldn't seem to stop looking at
him. With that awful fascina-
tion, that suddenly clear and
penetrating gaze. As if she had
never seen him before, exactly
as he was.

He had discarded his coat. In
shirt-sleeves, he worked at the
board in his office, the door
open. His shoulders were broad,
his tanned, bony face absorbed.
Once he picked up his slide rule,
drew it out of its worn case,
slipped the little transparent
panel carefully down an inch or
two, and frowned as he made a
calculation.

She began to wonder, as he
worked on, oblivious, how Paul
could have stood these months in
the office with her after she
married Bill. He had always
been just the same—casual, nor-
mal, businesslike. How could he
have such control of himself that
although Suzanne said his eyes
gave him away, when they were
together, here in the office they
never did?

Or did they? She swung
around in her chair, her eyes on
the back of the thin file clerk.
What was it the girl had said
several weeks ago? Something
about Mr. Elliott keeping Mrs.
Marshall from getting too lone-
ly.

Yes, there had been suspicions,
gossip, here too, just as there
had been in the apartment house.
She alone had not suspected.

Her head ached dully, by
lunch time. Her fingers had been
slow and faltering on the type-
writer keys all morning. Lunch
did not revive her. There still
echoed in her mind the sound of
Suzanne's voice. The sickening
realization that those awful
things she had said were true
settled more and more heavily
in Martha's heart.

"I'll never again act natural
with Paul," she thought. "I won't
be able to be gay and offhand
and the way I've always been."

There was more to it than
that, too. "I'll have to stop see-
ing him. I can't tell him why
straight out. Yet I mustn't let
him come to the apartment any-
more. How can I make him un-
derstand that our friendship is
over?"

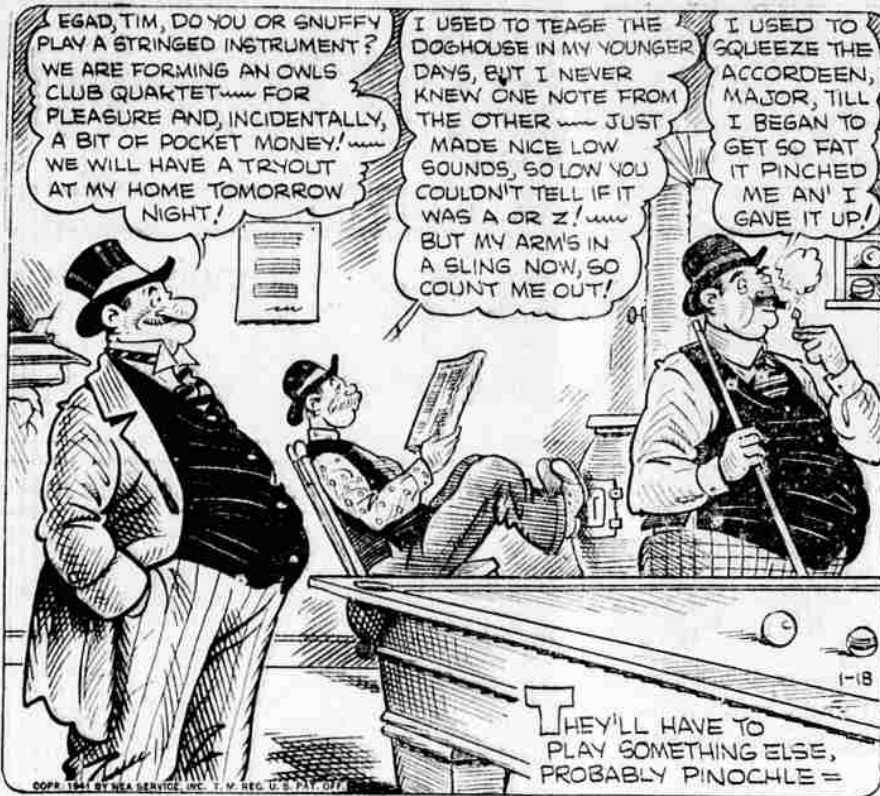
(To be continued)

6-QT. PANS, 2-21c
6-quart milk pans for 2. 21c at
Carr's 1c sale—and scores of oth-
er bargains. Shop at Carr's.—
(Adv.)

SKATING
Wed., Sat. and Sunday
at the
RAINBOW RINK
WINCHESTER

Floor Sanding
and Refinishing
Old Floors Made Like New
CHAS. KEEVER
Phone 651-J Phone 128

OUR BOARDING HOUSE



News of Douglas County

Sutherlin

SUTHERLIN, Jan. 17.—Miss
Doris Carr visited her friend,
Miss Marie Shirley at Drain over
the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mathews
plan to leave Friday for Sweet
Home, Ore., where they are called
on business.

Mrs. Reuben Ferber of Oak-
land was a business visitor in
town Tuesday.

Leonard Barge visited friends
in Eugene over the week-end.

L. Deward, who has been visit-
ing and attending to business
in California for the past two
weeks, returned home Monday
morning.

Miss Lillian Young of Cottage
Grove is a house guest of Mr.
and Mrs. Johnny White for a
few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Gleason and
family of Cottage Grove spent
the week-end with the former's
parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie
Gleason at their ranch home
west of town.

P. J. Davis spent the week-end
with the former's parents, Mr.
and Mrs. Leslie Gleason at their
ranch home west of town.

P. J. Davis spent the week-end
with his daughter and son-in-law,
Mr. and Mrs. Alton Hebard, at
Umpqua.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rob-
ertson and son, Donald, accom-
panied by Mr. Robertson's moth-
er, Mrs. Morrow, left Sunday for
Portland where they will visit
and attend to business returning
her Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Lula Gorrell, county
school superintendent, has ap-
pointed Glean Martin on the lo-
cal school board to serve in the
vacancy due to the resignation
of Lawrence Robertson.

Mrs. Eiler Drake, who has been
visiting her mother, Mrs.
Mary Selleck, and other relatives
for the past few weeks left Wed-
nesday afternoon for her home
in Omaha, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. George Roadman
have just completed another ca-
bin at their camp ground on
State street. Mr. Hungerford
was the carpenter.

Harry Porter, who has been
visiting his brother and sister-
in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Por-
ter since Christmas left Wednes-
day for his home in Plattsmouth,
Neb.

Mrs. Harry Belden arrived Sat-
urday from Baker to join her
husband, who is employed at the
mine. They will make their
home at the Roadman camp
ground.

Mr. and Mrs. Seely Carsens
left Wednesday for Baker, Ore.,
where they will visit the form-
er's relatives and also Walla
Walla, Wash., where they will
visit Mrs. Carsens's sister. They

With Major Hoopie

Lookingglass

LOOKINGGLASS, Jan. 17.—
Lexel Swan, son of Mr. and Mrs.
Gary Swan, was taken to Mercy
hospital last week suffering from
pneumonia. He is reported to be
improving satisfactorily.

Miss Margaret Rogers returned
to Berkeley Saturday to resume
her studies at Armstrong college.

Dale Maddox has returned to
Oregon State college following the
holidays spent with the home
folk.

The meetings being held each
evening at the local church by
Rev. and Mrs. Luther Adams are
being well attended and will con-
tinue the second week. On Fri-
day Rev. and Mrs. Adams visited
the high school where they fa-
vored the students with a vocal
duet and Rev. Mr. Adams made a
short talk.

E. A. Britton of Roseburg met
on Saturday evening at the home
of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Voorhies
with a group of local 4-H leaders
to discuss club work for the win-
ter and to appoint leaders. Ben
Jacoby accepted leadership of the
advanced sheep clubs, George
Marsh and Alvin Heard will have
charge of the beginning sheep
clubs and mixed livestock proj-
ects, Maybelle Strickland will
have charge of homemaking 1
and 2, Mrs. Edna Matthews, ad-
vanced sewing, and Mrs. Mary
Jacoby, beginning sewing. Corn
club projects will be carried in-
dividually as in the past. On Thurs-
day the leaders will meet at the
school and discuss the projects,
at which time the pupils will
have opportunity to sign up for
club work.

The P.-T. association will meet
on Thursday evening, Jan. 16, in
the high school assembly room.

Mrs. Mary Smith left on Mon-
day for Portland where she will
visit at the home of her son and
daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs.
Wesley Smith.

Everett Hodges has gone to Ta-
coma where he has secured em-
ployment.

Mrs. Tom Morgan is still con-
fined to her home with a severe
attack of jaundice.

Raymond Buell and Ira How-
ard joined the CCC's last week
and were assigned to the camp
at South Umpqua Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lehman
spent the week-end in Portland.
During their absence their daugh-
ters, Nancy, Rae and Victoria,
stayed at the home of their aunt,
Mrs. Ruth Hodges.

The patrons of the 27-telephone
line are rejoicing in very good
service following months of
searching for a defect on the line
that impaired the service ma-
terially.

Miss Marian Morgan was a

visitor over the week-end at the
home of Miss Betty White.

The regular monthly meeting
of the P. T. A. Study club will be
held in the basement of the high
school on Tuesday afternoon,
Jan. 14. At that time it is plan-
ned that the Red Cross sewing
committee of the Women's So-
ciety of Christian Service will
have materials on hand for the
sewing and knitting projects and
members of both societies will
plan to meet together to enjoy
the program and work for the
Red Cross. The ladies are asked
to bring their own sewing equip-
ment and knitting needles.

The Misses Helen Wooden and
Alta May Alverson were dinner
guests on Thursday evening at
the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray
Petrequin and son, John and
nephew, Dean Eccles.

Word was received on Monday
morning by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
Buckle of the death of their
small granddaughter, Marvel
Martin, at the Doernbecher hos-
pital in Portland where she had
been taken for treatment for com-
plications following an attack of
pneumonia. The little girl was
the daughter of Alva Martin and
the late Belva Buckle Martin and
had been living with her father,
two small sisters and a brother at
Sweet Home. Interment will be

in the Garden Valley cemetery
beside the grave of her mother,
who died last summer.

CLEAN BURNING
STOVE OIL
No odor or soot, more heat.
It costs no more.
Tide Water Associated
Oil Co.
Phone 537

Rice & Meyers
Sheet-Metal Works
Sheet Metal Work
Tailored to the Job
627 N. Jackson St. Phone 320

H. C. STEARNS
Funeral Director
Licensed Lady Assistant
Phone 472
OAKLAND, ORE.
Any Distance, Any Time
Our service is for ALL, and
meets EVERY NEED

DANCE
with
Bill Black's 6-Piece Orchestra
AT THE ORIENTAL GARDENS
Saturday, January 18th
Sponsored by Federal Employees, Local No. 459
Ladies 20c, Gents 30c, including tax

DE LAVAL
CREAM SEPARATORS
Now is the time to trade in your old
cream separator on a new DeLaval
--With higher cream prices, it pays
to have the best that money can
buy. Prices as low as \$32.50. Elec-
tric model complete \$79.95.
DOUGLAS COUNTY CREAMERY
PHONE 340

Now! Complete Envelope Service
Being a factory distributor in this city for Mail-Well Envelopes we are now able to fill ALL of your envelope needs.
Commercial and Official Envelopes
Window Envelopes
Catalog Envelopes
Business Reply and Statement Envelopes
Coin and Seed Envelopes
Air Mail Envelopes
Economic Envelopes
Drug, Theatre Ticket, Pay, Florist Envelopes and many others
Roseburg News-Review

Camas Valley
CAMAS VALLEY, Jan. 17.—
The local teachers all returned
from their holiday vacations to
start school January 6. The con-
ference volleyball and basketball
games begin this month, the first
one being played Friday evening,
January 10, with the Glide teams.
The boys won the basketball
game with a large lead. The
girls lost, however, with a small
difference of scores.

Nursery Stock
Locally Grown
We offer Walnut, Filbert, Peach, Pear, Apple,
Plum, Prune, Fig, Paw Paw, Grape, Berries, etc.,
in various varieties and sizes. Ornamentals, in-
cluding shade trees and roses. Home grown ac-
climated stock.
C. E. MOYER, NURSERIES
Phone 44F13 Roseburg, Oregon

OUR GOAL
Service that pleases is the
goal we set—and we make it,
every time you use one of our
taxicabs! As comfortable as
an... easy chair.
CALL TAXI
21
IMMEDIATE SERVICE
EVERYWHERE