

### MISS THOMPSON NAMED ROUND-UP QUEEN FOR 1934

PENDLETON, Ore. (Special) — The charming 19-year-old girl selected to reign as queen of the 1934 Pendleton Round-Up, September 13-15, has been riding horses since she was four years old and actually "rides fence" on her father's 5,000 acre ranch, taking care of the 60 vicious bucking horses belonging to the Round-Up. Her name is Shirley Thompson and her mother, Mrs. Laura McKee, was queen of the first Pendleton Round-Up held in 1910. Her father, Herb Thompson is livestock director for the Round-Up association and cares for the valuable bucking stock on his ranch. Shirley's ranch home is 14 miles southeast of Pendleton in the foothills of the Blue mountains and is on Indian reservation land. Shirley knows the Indians and speaks their language and participated in the Indian horse round-up held each spring when the colts are branded.

It may seem unusual outside of Unavilla county but the Lomenavich school graduate is so well known in these parts that it is taken for granted. She has on occasion, cut out the Round-Up bucking horses from the other stock on the ranch and, single handed, driven them all into Pendleton to deliver them at the Round-Up grounds. She often rides 25 miles of fence daily.

Every one of the five attendants selected for Queen Shirley lives on a ranch and all are excellent riders, preferring western saddles above the English type used in riding academies. The attendants are Margaret Broseman of Morrow county, several miles from Heppner; Ruth Porter of the Long Creek country in Grant county; Mary Robinson who lives three miles out of Walla Walla; Hazel Barton of the historic old Barton ranch near Freeport, 57 miles back of Enterprise; and Betty Tubbs, from a ranch near Adams, 18 miles out of Pendleton.

That these truly western girls will reign over a Round-Up unsurpassed by any of the 24 great shows that Pendleton has staged since 1910, spreading the fame of the Pacific northwest throughout the world, is confidently predicted by President Wilson D. McNary and Business Manager Roy W. Rittner of the Round-Up association. Rittner requests for prize lists are arriving from the world's foremost competitors, the participation of 2,000 Indians is assured, and the historic "Westward Ho" parade held Friday instead of Saturday as in former years, will be more complete than ever before. Meanwhile, 1934 is proving a great rodeo year with various western exhibitions setting new attendance records. Mr. Rittner personally visited the Cody Steeplechase in Wyoming and the Livingston Round-Ups in Montana early in July. The Cody show had the best attendance in 5 years and the Livingston exhibition drew the largest gate in its history. He also attended the Calinas, California rodeo where the show had the greatest attendance for several years, climaxed with 27,000 on the final day. Word comes from Calgary that the Alberta rodeo drew well this year, and Cheyenne Frontier Days broke previous records for attendance.

The Pendleton Round-Up will be held three full days, September 13, 14 and 15 with nightly "Happy Canyon" pageants. The round-up is not limited to bucking, roping and bull-dogging but provides a variety of thrills with pony express races, the "wild ride," relay races, steeplechase races, trick roping, the ceremonial dances of the Indians and other distinctive features found at Pendleton alone. Saddling of bucking horses in done in the arena while other western shows buck the horses from chutes. Calves are roped just as they are on the range, thrown and tied down, whereas many rodeos require the bullockeers to stand and rope calves to merely be decorated with a ribbon placed on the horn or the nose.

### REFRESHING RAIN IN DROUTH AREA

CHICAGO, Aug. 13 (AP) — Rain pattered down today in four of the states hardest hit by the destructive drought. Generally, the precipitation came too late to be of much aid to the major crops, although in some production areas, among them the Nebraska panhandle, it was said that the showers might insure a fair crop of corn.

Elsewhere, the rain was more than welcome to relieve acute water shortage and to stave off a 1935 crop disaster. Farmers needed heavy rains, they said, to provide pasturage.

### AFRICAN PLANES BECKON MRS. SMUTS TO TRAVEL

PRETORIA, So. Africa (AP) — The wife of General Jan Smuts, South African statesman and soldier, has never been outside Africa because of her distaste for ocean travel, but she may fly with her husband to the British Isles in September when he goes to Scotland to deliver an address, as chancellor of St. Andrew's university.

General Smuts at 64 is an ardent flyer and intends to save time, days on his impending voyage by traveling by the Imperial Airways down the Nile valley to Cairo and thence to London.

### CHILE CUTS MORTGAGE INTEREST

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — A law has been promulgated reducing from 8 and 8 per cent to 6 per cent the interest on loans due to the Bank of Mortgage Credit.

Scientists say a strenuous vacation often is better than a quiet vacation if it is a change from ordinary modes of living.

Florida sponge divers are perfecting a "submarine" to enable them to collect sponges from the bottom of the sea.

### ASTORIA EXPECTS 2000 AT A. L. MEET

ASTORIA, Ore., Aug. 13 (AP) — More than 2,000 legionnaires were expected to attend the 1934 state convention of the American Legion here August 23, 24, and 25. J. C. Wright, chairman of the convention commission, predicted today.

Edward A. Hayes, national commander, will be present, along with leaders of the 40 st B. nine drum corps, three bands and the four junior baseball teams. The housing committee has already received requests for 600 reservations, Wright asserted.

The convention program includes the semi-finals of the state baseball league, business sessions and a parade and fireworks for the first day. Commander Hayes' address, the baseball finals and state athletic beauty and drum corps contests for the second, and election of officers for the third day.

### MURDER AT MOCKING HOUSE BY WALTER C. BROWN

SYNOPSIS: Sergeant Harper has proved that the stranger and the policeman found dead in Pierre Dufresne's house were murdered and did not shoot each other. But the motive of the crime, the identity of the stranger, and the means of escape used by the murderer still are a mystery. Harper has discovered, however, the spirit of Dufresne's killer's death was one of a set of threatening letters received by Dufresne. Andrews, neighborhood, denies all knowledge of the letters.

### Chapter 35 ANGER

ANDREWS, fingerprints do not lie.

"These must, I tell you, I know nothing about it. Besides, I was at the Austerlitz last night. You know that."

"Sure, I know it. You've got an ironclad alibi. Quite true, but there was more than one in this plot."

"When I got to the Austerlitz, why were you so nervous, Andrews? I hadn't yet told my news, but you were already upset, jumpy. Why were you so agitated when I insisted on rousing your master? Why all this, if you knew nothing about what had happened?"

Once again the man exhibited all the signs of an intense inward struggle to repress an emotional strain. By sheer force of will Andrews pulled himself together. "I had strict orders not to disturb Mr. Dufresne on any account." He faltered on. "You see, sir, I knew he was intoxicated and didn't want a stranger to see him in that condition."

"You're lying, Andrews. There's something else. Mr. Dufresne was more than half drunk when I left him the first time."

Sergeant Harper spoke out of the certitude of his conviction. The butler's words were plausible, yes, but there was that indefinable something in his tone that convinced the detective that Andrews was uneasy at mention of the Austerlitz surprise visit.

"Furthermore," Harper continued, "some one spilled on us while we were searching J's cellar this morning. The result was the hiding of the gun that had been in Mr. Dufresne's room. Those are overt acts and some one is going to answer for them."

Andrews' eyes glinted as he squared his shoulders and faced the detective squarely. "If you think I am guilty, I'd prefer that you repeat those charges before Mr. Dufresne," he challenged.

"That's not a bad idea," Harper snapped, and strode over to the bell. Dufresne made a prompt appearance.

The detective repeated the account of his discovery and placed both letter and goblet before the dapper man, silent and attentive until Harper had finished.

Then Dufresne pushed the exhibit aside without a glance. "I'm not surprised that you've come to some such idiotic conclusion," he said. "There is no question as to Andrews' loyalty. I would as soon accuse myself. He put his hand on the old man's shoulder with a gesture of affection."

Harper's anger mounted, too. "This mutual loyalty is very touching but it still doesn't explain how Andrews' thumb print came to be on this letter. That certainly calls for an explanation."

Dufresne turned to his servant. "Have we any stationery like that in the house?"

"No, sir. We've never used tinted papers of any kind."

"It's strange that every letter is a different color," Dufresne commented thoughtfully. "Stationery is not sold that way. It suggests sample specimens."

Andrews started up. "I remember now," he cried excitedly, "these are sample sheets. They were sent here by some printing concern collecting business. Mrs. Whitmore turned them over to me a long time ago and I stuck them away in a desk. Last autumn I cleared out the desk and threw them into the wastebasket. That's how my finger mark got on the sheet."

"There you are, Harper," Dufresne announced triumphantly. "This time Harper believed the butler's explanation, for his tone had the spontaneity of simple truth."

"If I accept Andrews' explanation," he said, "then any one could have taken them from the collar. But it establishes a strong point, Mr. Dufresne—those letters originated in this house! And now, if you'll excuse me, I have other matters to go over with Andrews."

Dufresne accepted the invitation to withdraw but went away with a slow step and a packer's brow between his brows, as if absorbed by some weighty problem. When he had gone and the door was closed again, "I have a test to propose, Andrews,"

ENEMY WAR DEAD FOUND ON ITALY'S ASIAGO PLATEAU ASIAGO, Italy (AP) — A military detachment working in the Asiago plateau has exhumed 2,400 bodies of troopers killed in the World war and given them permanent burial in the military cemetery here.

Six hundred of the bodies were identified. Also the detachment reported that 2,000 Austrian and Hungarian dead have been found.

It is understood the bodies of the enemy soldiers will be returned to their homes with fitting honors.

Because of an "unwritten law," taxi drivers in Bronxville, N. Y., wear coats at all times.

### MURDER AT MOCKING HOUSE BY WALTER C. BROWN

the detective stated, "to determine who did write the letters."

The butler made a free gesture with his hand. "I have no objection, sir."

Harper handed him a blank piece of paper and a pencil with a soft lead. "Please print, not write, what I dictate."

Andrews nodded, whereupon Harper began to read the letter which bore the butler's imprint. He read leisurely, giving the man ample time to draw the letters. When it was over he placed a fresh piece of paper before Andrews. "Now," he said, "this time go as fast as you can." His dictation doubled in speed and his repeated admissions of "Faster! Faster!" sent the butler's pencil scampering.

Harper compared the two papers. "Please do not mention this test to any one in the house," the detective ordered. "Only the guilty person need fear the result."

A long look passed between the two men, a profound and searching look on both sides. "You may rely on my observation, sir," said Andrews gravely as he turned to leave. As soon as the butler had gone Harper brought out the test papers again and compared them, not only with the original letter, but with each other. Andrews' specimens seemed to be quite genuine and to substantiate his denial of authorship.

THE sight of Mrs. Dufresne's ruined slippers, rescued from the rubbish by Lafferty's zeal, suggested an easy way of checking that lady's writing, with no one the wiser. Harper locked the door to the breakfast-room and betook himself to the cellar. Two square rubbish boxes stood under the stairs.

One contained crumpled paper bags, discarded advertising matter and waste paper of various sorts. Scattered here and there among these were slips from the pad Mrs. Dufresne used for writing out questions and answers since her surgical wrappings had enforced muteness.

There were about a dozen in all and Harper quickly gathered them up, stopping to read them there. He had snatched off his light and was about to ascend when he heard foot steps on the stairs and started back.

John Whitmore appeared, carrying an armload of empty boxes.

"Whitmore," Harper began, "have you the time to do a little job for me?"

The handy man nodded eagerly, delighted to have a finer in this most superlative of thrillers.

"The detective lowered his voice to the proper conspiratorial pitch. "I want you to go to all the rooms upstairs, empty the waste-baskets, and bring direct to me what you find in them."

"But I emptied them all first thing this morning," Whitmore whispered.

Harper nodded. "I know you did, but do it again. That includes Mrs. Dufresne's room. Act very casual about it, so no one will suspect anything. Understand?"

"Oh, yes, sir," Whitmore responded with alacrity. "I'll go right away."

Harper followed him upstairs and was walking through the dark-paneled hall when he saw that familiar figure in the huge fur coat making toward the front door. "May I have a word with you, Dacier?" he called, and Dr. Ulrich swung around.

"How is Mrs. Dufresne today?" Harper asked.

"Doing well enough," Ulrich responded rather curtly.

"When will she be able to talk? I have some questions to ask her."

"She is not to talk for several days, at least. That is final. If your questions can't wait, I'll arrange an interview. She can write out the answers for you, but I insist on being present."

"Thanks, but I prefer to hear the answers from her own lips."

"Well, then, you'll have to wait," Ulrich snapped, his waxed moustaches bristling and his black eyes glaring behind the gold-rimmed glasses.

Harper watched his brusque departure from the vestibule, curious to know the reason for the big doctor's animosity. He returned to the breakfast-room and sat down to study the salvaged slips that bore Sylvia Dufresne's writing. There was absolutely nothing to be gleaned from the contents themselves, and the detective could see no points of similarity between Mrs. Dufresne's wifely word and essentially feminine nine style and the broad incisive strokes of the anonymous postman.

The longer he pored over the letters the firmer became his conviction that a man had written them.

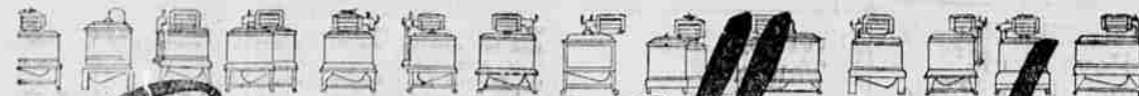
There was something about the sequence of events that baffled penetration.

(Continued, 1931, by Walter C. Brown)

Tomorrow, Harper uncovers an important fact about Donaghy.

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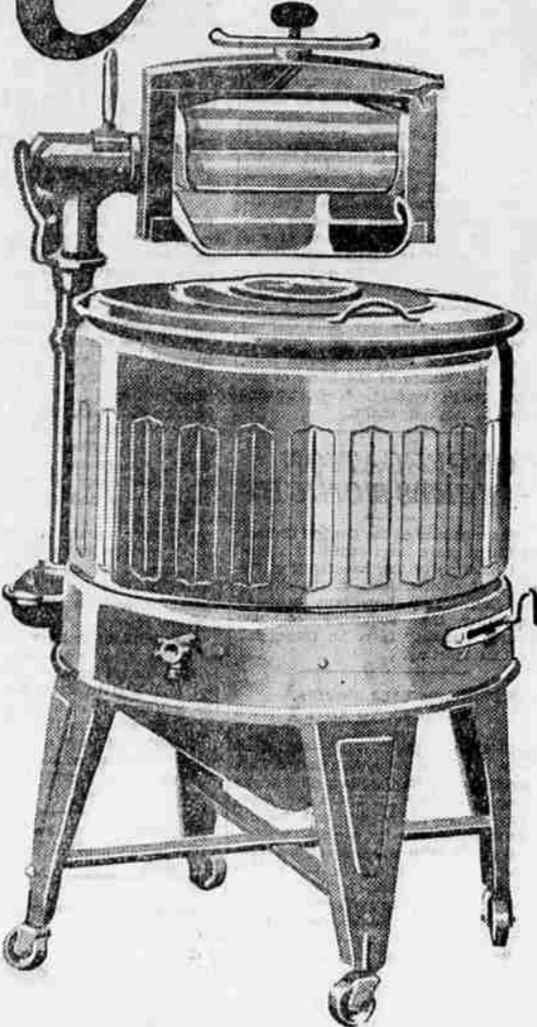
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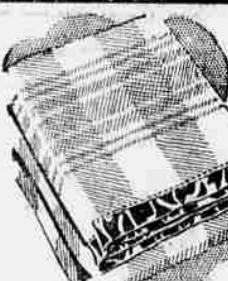
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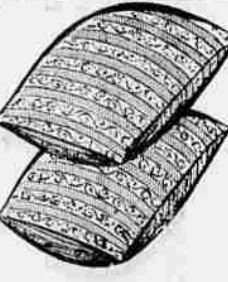
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