

THE KENNEL MURDER CASE

By S. S. Van Dine

Copyright by W. H. Wright WNU Service

THE STORY

CHAPTER I—Philo Vance, expert in solving crime mysteries, is called in to investigate the supposed suicide of Archer Coe, wealthy collector of Chinese bronzes.

District Attorney Markham has learned the circumstances over the telephone from Gambie Coe's butler. Getting no response when he had knocked on his employer's bedroom door, Gambie said he had looked through the keyhole and had seen Coe seated, a revolver in his right hand and a bullet hole in his temple. The door was locked from the inside. Markham and Vance go to Coe's home in New York City. They find Wrede, a friend of Coe's, there; also a stenographer, a guard, Sergeant Heath and Detective Bransford. Coe is clothed in a dressing gown, but wears street shoes. Heath says it is a plain case of suicide. Vance says it is murder.

CHAPTER II—Hilda Lake, Coe's niece, fainted because she could not bear to see the coroner's inquest. She means that as her guardian she controlled her fortune and was parsimonious. Medical Examiner Doremus arrives and says nothing about the case. He says that certain mysterious features by Vance, he changes his mind. He declares Coe had been dead for hours when the bullet entered his head. It is found that Coe had been struck on the head and one of his ribs broken. Finally the wound is found. The wound had bled internally. Vance, from a closet, brings out a coat and waistcoat, with holes consistent with Coe's wound, showing Coe was fully dressed when he was strangled. Gambie announces that there is something queer in the front hall.

CHAPTER III—They find a wounded Scotch terrier. Vance takes the dog to a veterinarian. Wrede, who has become engaged to Miss Lake against Coe's wishes and Grace Coe has been Coe's guest, are briefly questioned. Vance says the Scotch terrier should prove an important clue. Hilda Lake says Bransford Coe, Archer's brother, who lived in the home left for her by her father, the room. Vance declares Bransford could not have gone to Chicago, as his favorite stick is hanging in the hall.

(Continued last week)

CHAPTER IV

The Missing Man and the Ting Yao Vase

There was a momentary tense silence. Vance's statement, with the possibilities it suggested, threw a chill of vague horror over all of us. Unsteadily Gambie rose, and bracing himself with one hand on the back of his chair, glared at Vance like a man who had seen a malignant specter.

"You are sure you saw the stick, sir?" he stammered, with a nervous contortion of the face. "I didn't see it. And Mr. Bransford never hangs his stick over the hall chair. He always puts it in the umbrella stand. Maybe someone else did."

"Who but Mr. Bransford himself would bring that stick back to the house and hang it over a chair in the hall?"

"But, Mr. Vance, sir, the man persisted in an awed tone, "he once reprimanded me for hanging it over a chair—he said it might fall and get broken. Why, sir, should he hang it over the chair?"

"Less noisy, perhaps, than chucking it into a brass umbrella holder."

Markham was leaning over the desk growling at Vance.

"What do you mean by that?" he demanded.

Vance lifted his eyes slowly and let them rest on the district attorney.

"I opine, my dear Markham," he said slowly, "that brother Bransford didn't want anyone to hear him when he returned here last night. He started for Chicago on a night when he knew no one but Archer would be home. And then he missed his train—to speak euphemistically. He returned to the house—with his stick. And here's his stick. . . . but no Bransford. And Archer—the sole occupant of this cluttered dovecote last night—has gone to his Maker in most outlandish fashion."

"Good—G—d—Vance!" Markham sank back in his chair. "You don't mean that Bransford—"

"Tut, tut! There you go jumping at conclusions again. . . . Vance began walking up and down his hands sunk deep in his coat pockets. "I can understand Bransford's presence here last night," he murmured as if to himself, "but I can't understand the presence of his stick here this morning. It's very curious—it doesn't fit into the picture. Even if he had not taken the Lake Shore limited to Chicago, there were other trains later on."

Heath took his cigar from his mouth.

"How do you know the bird didn't take another train—that is, supposing he'd missed the Lake Shore Limited?"

"By the stick in the lower hall, Sergeant."

"Couldn't a guy forget his stick?"

"Not Bransford Coe—and certainly not in the circumstances," cut in Markham.

"What circumstances?"

"That's what I don't know exactly," Vance made a wry face. "But I begin to see a method in all this seeming madness and that stick downstairs stands out like some terrible and accusing error."

He stopped abruptly, and suddenly swinging about, went toward the door.

"I'll be back in a minute. There's a possibility. He passed swiftly into the hall."

Heath looked disgustedly at Markham.

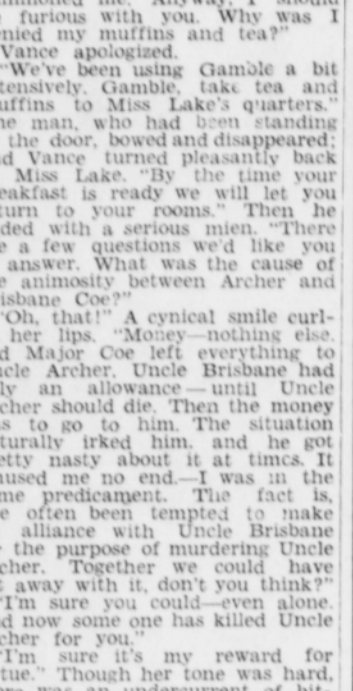
"If you ask me," he submitted

Oriental Charm



The Chinese influence is reflected vividly in this hostess gown of black and white painted silk, worn by Maxine Jennings, movie mannequin. A knee-length tunic swoops into a long double train at the back, and the bodice has a short kimono sleeve.

Home Beckons Eskimos 'Santy'



A modest little Laplander, Andy Bahr, above, is homeward-bound after completing one of the biggest, most unusual "jobs" in modern history. A little more than five years ago, Andy and six helpers started from Elephant Point, Alaska, to herd 3000-odd reindeer over the Arctic barrens to the Mackenzie river district, 1200 miles away, along the route shown in the map. The animals were to form the nucleus for future herds, to furnish food and transportation to starving, seafaring Eskimos. Hazards of the Alaskan trek took a toll of 1400 reindeer before Andy arrived at his goal.

finished doffing my golf togs when the far-from-admirable Crichton summoned me. Anyway, I should be furious with you. Why was I denied my muffins and tea?"

Vance apologized.

"We've been using Gambie a bit intensively. Gambie, take tea and muffins to Miss Lake's quarters." The man, who had been standing in the door, bowed and disappeared, and Vance turned pleasantly back to Miss Lake. "By the time your breakfast is ready we will let you return to your rooms. Then he added with a serious mien, "There are a few questions we'd like you to answer. What was the cause of the animosity between Archer and Bransford Coe?"

"Oh, that!" A cynical smile curled her lips. "Money—nothing else. Old Major Coe left everything to Uncle Archer. Uncle Bransford had only an allowance—until Uncle Archer should die. Then the money was to go to him. The situation naturally irked him, and he got pretty nasty about it at times. It amused me no end—I was in the same predicament. The fact is, I've often been tempted to make an alliance with Uncle Bransford for the purpose of murdering Uncle Archer. Together we could have got away with it, don't you think?"

"I'm sure you could—even alone. And now someone has killed Uncle Archer for you."

"I'm sure it's my reward for virtue. Though her tone was hard, there was an undercurrent of bitterness in her voice. "Or perhaps," she added, "Uncle Bransford went ahead on his own."

"That might be looking into it," smiled Vance. "The only difficulty is that Gambie tells us Mr. Bransford hopped to Chicago at five-thirty last evening."

"That doesn't mean anything. Uncle Bransford has dabbled enough in criminology to prepare a perfect alibi in the event he himself contemplated a flitting in crime."

"What takes him on these periodical trips to Chicago?" Vance asked.

Hilda Lake shrugged.

"Heaven knows. He never mentioned the matter to me and I never asked. It's a damned mystery. He's a damned mystery," she exclaimed, "taunting tone. "If he told anyone that person was Uncle Archer. And I'm afraid it's too late to get any information from that quarter now."

"Yes, a bit too late," agreed Vance. "But let us suppose that after Mr. Bransford's departure last evening, he remained in New York all night. What would you say to that?"



A modest little Laplander, Andy Bahr, above, is homeward-bound after completing one of the biggest, most unusual "jobs" in modern history. A little more than five years ago, Andy and six helpers started from Elephant Point, Alaska, to herd 3000-odd reindeer over the Arctic barrens to the Mackenzie river district, 1200 miles away, along the route shown in the map. The animals were to form the nucleus for future herds, to furnish food and transportation to starving, seafaring Eskimos. Hazards of the Alaskan trek took a toll of 1400 reindeer before Andy arrived at his goal.

cards. Bransford Coe intended to go to Chicago last night—and he didn't go. Some terrible thing happened. Archer Coe before he could change his shoes. . . . Don't you see what I mean? Those shoes of Archer's—and that stick of Bransford's—That stick!—in the front hall! It shouldn't have been there. Oh, my precious aunt! He threw his cigarette into a tray, and hurried toward the door.

"Come, Markham. . . . Come, Sergeant. There's something hideous in this house. . . . and I don't want to go alone."

As he spoke, he ran down the stairs, Markham and Heath and I followed. When he had reached the lower hall, he pulled the portieres aside and opened the library door. He looked round him, and then passed into the dining room.

(Continued Next Week)

Mrs. Youngen Meet Hostess

Birthday Party Held; Two Pupils Lost to School

(By Mrs. John M. Davidson)

HELVETIA—Ladies' Aid met with Mrs. Abe Youngen March 13. Guests were Rev. B. M. Frensborg, Mrs. E. Guerber, Mrs. Pete Jossy and Mrs. Sig Sorenson. Next meeting will be April 3 with Mrs. Augusta Hafner in Hillsboro, when the Phillips and Helvetia Ladies' Aid will be together.

Joseph Wenzel and the Boy Scouts worked on their scout cabin Saturday. Friday night several studied for merit badges to be awarded at court of honor in Hillsboro Thursday night.

Loss Pupils

Helvetia school has lost two pupils, Richard Miller in the first grade moved with his parents to Goble, and Marjorie Boardson, eighth grade, moved to Portland March 13 with Mrs. William Zurcher. Thirty-six are now enrolled.

James Davidson entertained Saturday in honor of the birthday anniversary of his mother, Mrs. J. M. Davidson. Dancing and games were enjoyed. Music was furnished by Dan Hebeisen, Wesley Pieren and Lewis Donaldson. Present were the honor guest, Misses Clara Tschabold, Anna Marie and Hilda Meyer, Frances Scherrer, Margaret Hinton, Inez Erdman and Theresa Bishop and Mrs. Elizabeth Ritter, Mrs. Anna Donaldson, Mrs. H. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davidson, John Davidson, Wilfred and Albert Gossen, Vincent Bishop, Clarence Tschabold, Wesley Pieren, Sam and Harry Badertscher, Walter Hershey, Lewis and James P. Donaldson, Dan Bastick, Allen Berger, Roy Hofer, Carsten Hansen, Lovat and James Davidson.

James Hartley visited at the school last week and entertained the children with harmonica music. John Zurcher was taken to Jones hospital Saturday night due to illness. Fred Zurcher, Mrs. Rosa Feuerstein, Joe Schmidt and Walt Feuerstein visited him Sunday. He was improving slowly.

Mr. and Mrs. Abe Youngen and Elaine Youngen were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Zurcher at Phillips Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace McCuen and family of Longview, Wash., visited Mr. and Mrs. Dave Tschabold Sunday. Mr. McCuen is better now.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davidson of Brax camp and Joseph Wenzel were dinner guests at the J. M. Davidson home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rufener Jr., Marie Rufener and Sylvia Green, all of Portland, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rufener Sr.

John Rufener returned to Bremerton last week to work in a logging camp, where he had been employed.

Hillsboro Argus contains all the news of Hillsboro and the surrounding communities. Read it and keep informed on what is happening at home.

If you change your address kindly notify the Argus direct and at once.

DR. R. J. NICOL
DR. E. W. ALMQUIST
Veterinarians
Telephone 643 and 642

FUEL

Edgings and inside, dry, \$3.25
16-inch Cord

Excellent kitchen wood, the best buy you can find.
Seasoned Slab and Block
16-inch Old Growth Fir
Coal and Gasco Briquets

Herman Rehse
Phone 2062

Without increase over 1934 prices
PLYMOUTH GIVES YOU THIS BIGGER FINER 4 door SEDAN

CADY MOTOR CO.
149 S. Third Ave.
Hillsboro Oregon

Hayward Resident Remodeling House

(By Vivian Hudson)

HAYWARD—Axel Pederson has been remodeling the inside of his house by enlarging his kitchen, building a cooler, and sealing a room for a hired man, whom he expects to employ in the near future.

L. Jesse and family entertained relatives from Rainier March 10.

The Updike brothers plowed and graded a road into the bottom of the canyon to get out their cedar. Miss Vivian Hudson attended a dinner Thursday evening at the J. W. Kyle home of Peavine Ridge, honoring Mr. Kyle's 72nd birthday anniversary. Others attending were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kyle and son Darrell of Forest Grove, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kendall and son Donald, Mrs. Gertrude Williams, Willie Williams and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kyle of Peavine Ridge.

Local Officials Invited to Meet

Officials of Hillsboro have been invited to attend the tenth annual session of the League of Oregon Cities held in connection with the annual Commonwealth conference at the University of Oregon March 25 and 26. Topics will range from city planning to city budgets, civil service, fire dispatch systems and other phases of government.

Paul L. Patterson, Hillsboro city attorney, will be one of the speakers as will H. G. Bond, Forest Grove city recorder, and Judge Donald E. Long of Portland, former Hillsboro resident.

Officials of this city who have been invited to attend include: Mayor J. H. Garrett, Recorder Helen McDaniel, Manager George McGee, Attorney P. L. Patterson, Treasurer W. C. Christensen, Police Chief O. O. Freeman, Fire Chief S. W. Melnush, Health Officer Dr. J. B. Dinsmore, Auditor Max Crandall, and Councilmen M. H. Stevenson, J. M. Person, J. L. Anderson, Dr. J. O. Robb, L. C. Kramien, and J. J. Wismer.

You're Telling Us!

Eventually every married man learns to look at the gasoline register before he backs the car out of the garage.—William Feather.



How One Woman Lost 20 Pounds of Fat

Lost Her Prominent Hips, Double Chin, Sluggishness

Gained Physical Vigor—A Shapely Figure

If you're fat—first remove the cause. Take one-half teaspoonful of KRUSCHEN SALTS in a glass of hot water every morning—in 3 weeks get on the scales and note how many pounds of fat have vanished.

Notice also that you have gained in energy—your skin is clearer—you feel younger in body—KRUSCHEN will give any fat person a joyous surprise.

Get a quarter-pound jar of KRUSCHEN SALTS from any leading druggist anywhere in America (lasts 4 weeks). If this first bottle doesn't convince you this is the easiest, safest and surest way to lose fat—your money gladly returned.—Adv.

It's the Business of Every Advertiser

A. B. C. Made Circulation "Privacy" Unpopular

In all lines there has been a growing tendency toward simplicity.

The newspaper business was once pretty widely considered a thing of mystery. How it acquired and produced its news—how it was set in type and printed were mysteries that the general public was willing to have remain without explanation.

When advertising began to grow into something of importance, the more shrewd buyers of space became inquisitive about circulation of the newspapers in which they invested their money. Before that stage of progress had been reached, publishers assumed the position that the subject of circulation was a private, inviolate matter.

There can be no mystery or misunderstanding about the circulation of a newspaper which is an A. B. C. member. For that matter, there is every reason why circulation facts should be available at all times to merchants and manufacturers.

Circulation is every advertiser's business, for the reason that everybody is entitled to know just what he gets for what he pays. The annual audit report of an A. B. C. newspaper makes the subject of circulation simple and understandable.

Men who invest millions of dollars in newspaper advertising every year are responsible for the strict conditions that govern a newspaper's membership in the A. B. C. They know—they MUST know—what constitutes good circulation and proper circulation methods.

It's annual audit report—a copy which will gladly be supplied—shows exactly how—circulation measures up.

The Sign of Good Taste

GULF STREAM STRAIGHT WHISKEY 8 MONTHS OLD

OREGON'S FAVORITE WHISKEY NOW IN PINTS AND QUARTS

CODE NO. 173-C
75¢

CODE NO. 173-A
\$1.45

QUART

CODE NO. 173-H
\$2.75

1/2 GAL.

CODE NO. 173-I
\$5.25

GAL.

The D & B PRODUCTS CORP.
SEASIDE CITY, NEW JERSEY

15 of the NATION'S Leading Agricultural Authorities Approved Each Building in Our Farm Plan Service

You do not need to resort to guesswork when it comes to planning any kind of a farm building. Fifteen leading State Agricultural Colleges have solved that problem for you.

Here Is a Service That Is a Practical Answer To Your Farm Building Problems

When you build you want the best advice. Here it is. It costs you nothing and it saves you money. The nation's leading agricultural authorities on farm buildings are at your service. This assures you of maximum efficiency, permanence, strength, rigidity, and low upkeep in your farm buildings.

How To Get Better Construction At Lower Final Costs With 4-SQUARE Lumber

An equally important part of our Farm Building Service pertains to the right kind of lumber to use for every purpose, and how to use it to get good construction at the lowest possible cost. You will be agreeably surprised when we show you how easily it can be accomplished with Wegway's 4-SQUARE lumber.

This Farm Service Is Free To Our Customers

We invite you to discuss your building problems with us, whether you are in need of new buildings or merely wish to remodel or repair the old ones. We are certain that we can save you time, worry, and money. By all means call for a copy of our free booklet describing our Farm Service. It's yours for the asking.

J. W. COPELAND YARDS
S. 2nd Ave. and E. Washington Phone 301

DO YOU REMEMBER?

In the good old days, grooms sat comfortably and brides stood blushing—when they were being photographed. And that was the first outward indication that the man would dominate the home. It's different today—wives have proved that they can lead in the home, socially, and in business. Shrewd wives SAVE REGULARLY.

Commercial National Bank
"The Largest Independent Bank in Washington County"
Hillsboro Oregon

FDIC

Hillsboro Argus