THE KENNEL MURDER CASE

S. S. Van Dine

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THE STORY

solving crime mysteries, is called in to investigate the supposed suicide of Archer Coe, wealthy collector of Chinese ceramics. District Attorney Markham learned the circumstances over the telephone from Gamble, Coe's butler. Getting as response when he had knocked on his employer's bedroom door, Gamble said he had looked through the keyhole said he had looked through the keyhole said he had looked through the keyhole said had seen Coe seated, a revolver in his right hand and a bullet hole in his myst in the load from the inside. Markham and Vance go to Coe's here; also a Signor Grassif, a guest. Sergeant Heath and Detective Hennessey burst in the door, revealing the death chamber. 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—Hilds Lake, Coe's niece, and the library; but now the studied it critically as if something about it puzzled him. We were all watching him; and not the least interested person in the soom was Liang. His eyes were fixed on Vance's face.

"Extr'ordin'ry!" Vance murmurdafter several moments' contemplation of the vase. Then he lifted his eyes lethargically. "I say, Mr. Liang, was this bit of pottery on the table early last night?" Liang asked in a vague, mechanical voice. street shoes. Henth same it is a plain case of suicide. Yance says it is murder. CHAPTER II—Hida Lake, Coo's niece, says Coe deserved death—that he collected ceramics through unfair means and incurred the cumity of Chinese; also that as her guardian he controlled her fortune and was parsimonious. Medical Examiner Doremus a rivies and says suicide; then on being asked about 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 fround that Coe had been struck on the head and one of his ribs broken. Finally a small wound is found. The wound had bied internally. Vance, from a closet, brings out a containd wistcoat, with holes coinciding with Coe's wound, showing Coe was fully dreesed when he was stabbed. Gamble announces that there is something queer in the front hall.

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Vance picked up the vase and inspected it closely.

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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 guest, are briefly questioned. Vance says the Scottie should prove an important connecting link. Gamble says Brisbane Coe, Archer's brother, who lived in the house, left for Chicago the previous afternoon. Vance declares Brisbane could not have gone to Chicago, as his favorite stick is hanging in the hall.

CHAPTER IV—Miss Lake declares there was no love lost between Archer and Brisbane. Brisbane's suitcase is found at the railroad station. In a coat closed in the lower hall of the Coe home his dead body is discovered. Vance shook his head sadly. "No Archer would never have been taken in by this specimen. . . It's most confusin."

He started to replace the vase on the stand, but suddenly withheld the movement of his hand and set the vase to one side.

Leaning over, he pushed the little teakwood pedestal out of the way, revealing a tiny triangle of thin white porcelain, about an inch wide, which had been lying hidden underneath. Carefully adjusting his monocle he picked up the bit of porcelain and held it between his thumb and forefinger to the light.

"Now, this is eminently different."

Now, this is eminently different."

"Now, this is eminently different."

(Continued from last week)

Vance, during this interrogation, had appeared casual; and his manner had been deferential. But now a perceptible change came over his attitude. His eyes hardened, and he leaned forward in his chair.

When he spoke, his voice was cold and uncomment the spoke has and the spoke has voice was cold and uncomment the spoke has some specific to the change of the chippen spoket, and address.

-some time around eight o'clock, let us say."

"You are evidently laboring under a misapprehension," Liang returned.

Vance ignored the retort.

"And what did you see in this room at about eight o'clock?"

"How could I have seen anything, when I was not here?" came the calm, unruffled reply.

"Did you see Mr. Archer Coe?"
persisted Vance.

"I assure you—"

Vance kept his steady eyes on the man.

"When, Mr. Liang, did you last see this nineteenth-century imitation?" He pointed to the vase on the table.

Liang did not reply at once. He looked half thoughtfully at the vase for a full half-minute; then his eyes returned to Vance.

"I have never seen it before," he said finally.

"Fancy theti"

vent out returning at midnight."
"I was not in this house"—Liang
poke with deliberation—"between

Vance nodded and rose.

"That will be all for the present. Attend to your duties till we need nificance."

in front of the davenport

and the book for a moment. Then, without turning, he said:

He paused and looked up somberly.

"Moreover, Markham, that brok-

"It will be a simple matter," said ance, "to go over the tabouret r fingerprints and to compare em with yours.

"It would be unnecessary, h ever." came the calm reply. "You would find my fingerprints on it. often touch the furniture and bjects in this room.

Vance smiled faintly and, I hought, admiringly.

"In that case we shan't bother." He moved round the lamp and stood for a moment beside a circu-lar camphor-wood table just belar camphor-wood table just be-hind the davenport. In the center of the table, on a slender teak-wood base, stood a white balustertype vase about nine inches tall.

I had noticed Vance stop and glance at this vase when he had first entered the library; but now

ancies, now spoke.
"What possible connection can a

out?" he asked.
"On the davenport, sir," Gamble told him. "In that corner near the floor lamp. It was Mr. Archer's favorite seat."

Vance nodded and rose.

"Well?" Markham retorted irritably "I still corn." ritably. "I still can't see the sig-

"Nor can I." Vance became serious. "But it has significance—and walked to the davenport and look-ed down at it. Beside the lamp, hideous case. Because that little triangular bit of Ting yao porcelain and in front of the davenport, stood a low massive tabouret of teakwood; and on the floor near the hearth lay a copy of Tchou To-y's "Les Branzes antiques de la Chie". "Les Branzes antiques de la Archer would not have tolerated in the stood of the stoo Vance contemplated the tabouret the same room with him. . . ."

He paused and looked up som-

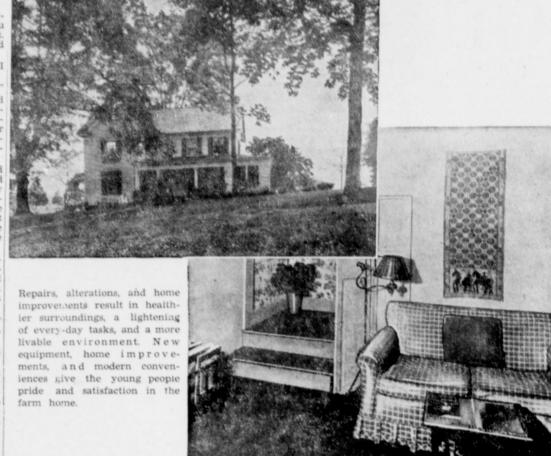
"Mr. Liang, did you find this tabouret upset when you returned to the house early last night?"
"I was not here," Liang repeated."
"Moreover, Markham, that broken fragment of porcelain has blood on it."

(Continued Next Week)

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Oregon, he said.

Birthday Parties

(By Mrs. O. H. Peterson)

son and daughter Lucille and Mari-

Hayward

Mr. and Mrs. August Jesse of Orchardale visited the L. Jesse

Albert and Walter Jesse have

een working at the Moehnke log-

ging camp this past week. Ton Snode and Roy Dargotz worked

week. Mr. and Mrs. George Laemer-

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Orchardale visited the land home Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Frank Bailey.

of Forest Grove

an Elsner.

of News Gleaned in County Trips

(By Francis S. Barr) Change in the weather soon to permit farming was the prediction of Mrs. G. C. Chase on route 4. An early garden was planned but cold weather checked progress. The Chase boys are now contenting themselves with cutting wood.

Henry Jacobson at West Union was doing a very expert job of re-topping his car. The clearing of fence rows recently has added to the appearance of his farm. Mr his attitude. His eyes hardened, and he leaned forward in his chair. When he spoke, his voice was cold and uncompromising.

"Mr. Liang." he said, "at what time did you first return to this "Did not Months."

"Did not Months and uncompromised week took an aircountry with his brother who is a pilot. He reported seeing much snow left in the hills. Mrs. Jacobson, recently in the hospital, has returned to her home and is comments.

"Did not Months attitude. His eyes hardened, and he leaned forward in his pocket, and addressed the little white triangle in his p Jacobson iast week took an airson, recently in the hospital, has returned to her home and is improving.

liam and daughter-in-law and son Norman, parents and brothers of Mrs. Elsner, Mr. and Mrs. Fred

"Mr. Liang," he said, "at what time did you first return to this house—early last night?"

There was a clouded, faraway look in the Chinaman's eyes.

"I did not return early last night," he answered, in a fainty sing-song voice, "I arrived at midnight."

"Yes, you arrived at midnight."

"Yes, you arrived at midnight."

"Yes, you arrived at midnight."

"And when did you last see the Ting yao vase last?"

"I do not remember."

"I do not remember."

"I do not remember."

"I do not remember."

Vance kept his steady eyes on the man. Farming will be resumed as soon

1. Mr. Vuylsteke is milking 17 cows and doing general farming on his raine, who is staying at the Tollefson by acres.

Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Tollefson and son Donald and niece, baby Lorraine's particular to the properties of the pr

"What possible connection can a spoke with deliberation—"between half-past two yesterday afternoon and midnight." There was a finality in both his manner and his tone.

Vance sighed wearily, and, turning to the hall door, called Gamble.

"Where was Mr. Archer Coe sitting last night when you went out?" he asked.

"On the davenport, sir," Gamble in the davenport, sir," Gamble in the control of the processing of the processin present flock will soon be increased by 500 baby chicks. Mrs. Burkey

was born in Washington county That improvement of weather conditions will be welcomed by country people was the opinion of Mrs. H. L. Robinson near Greensburg, on Tigard route 1. Mr. Robinson operates a dairy and is milking 20 cows at the present time. He

expects a tester this week. Good creps and good prices in at the Moehnke mill this past the berry industry this year are predicted by Mrs. E. L. Vasbinder, also of Tigard route 1.

Aided by willing and helpful chardale motored to Green Mounneighbors and the meetings held tain Friday evening with Mr. and at the Hillsboro Chamber of Com-merce, newcomers are being educated to the conditions of Washington county. This was the opinion of Carl Simantel on Cornelius LOOK for the orange and green box

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crops when buying Diamond

route 2. Mr. Simantel came to Oregon last fall from Wolsey, S. D. Newcomers to Washington county Scholls Rebekahs Plan for Social are a bit confused by the many products that can be grown in

SOUTH SCHOLLS- Ruby Re- Sunday bekah lodge in conjunction with Lincoln lodge will sponsor a social Henry Scheuerman near Blooming inserted an advertisement in the classified section of the Argus and his horse was sold the mornvening next Wednesday in f the new members of both lodges. Ten members of Ruby Rebekah lodge and their candidate, Mrs. Bertha Walaren, went to Tigard March 26, where she was initiated by the Tigard team.

Scholls Rebekah club last Wednesday evening decided to have one day-time social meeting each month. First of such meetings is Held by Bend Folk scheduled for April 21.

BEND—Little Ronald Elsner celebrated his second birthday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Elsner. Present were his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Scott and sons Walter and William and daughter in law and continued to the second sec NOW ON RIGHT TRACK "I was a locomotive engineer. ulled my train into Los Angeles that day and went to the opening meeting of the new City Mission to please a friend. There I heard the Gospel from which I had al-Weller and daughters Bonnie June and Patty, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Johnson and daughter Lucille and Mari. vert; twenty-five years ago. So our friend, the Rev. Britton Ross, out-School program was postponed School program was postponed from last Friday until tomorrow (Friday) due to several of the children being out of school

(Friday) due to several of the children being out of school a few days with illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Meyer visited recently at the home of Mrs. Meyer's brother, John White, at Tualatin View and brought Mr. White home with them to spend through the several days. Next spoke another Mission convert, an upstanding Hawaiian, now on his way back to the Islands. on his way back to the Islands. His father had been town mar-shal over there and had lost out through drink. The boy came to white nome with the same as weather permits at the J. A. Vuylsteke farm on Cornelius route

White nome with the land to spend through drink. The boy several days.

Wr. and Mrs. O. J. Tollefson and on a Montana railway, received on a Montana railway, received personal injuries and drifted to Seattle. There he became despon-Several acres of low land have been under water twice this winter at the L. W. Guild farm near Midway. Mr. Guild has 137 acres and almost all will be under cultivation this year.

Mrs. H. L. Halvorsen of Hillsboro route 5 added her name to the Corres (Clark Sex is itself the Tollefson home, visited Lorraine's parents, Mr. and Mrs. VanTessel, and family at Troutdale Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Scott vistant week at St. Helens with Mr. Scott's niece and husband and also spent several days in Portland.

Seattle. There he became despondent and was on his way to end it all off one of their high bridges. A group of young people in a street meeting stopped him. Their songs, prayers and testimonies told him they had something he did days in Portland.

"I have never seen it before," be said finally."

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"I have never seen it before," be said finally."

"I have never seen it before," be said finally.

"Fancy that!" Vance returned and almost all will be under cultivation this year.

"I was not here."

"I was not here."

"I was not here."

"I was not here."

"And was anyone with him?"

"I was not here."

"I was not here."

"And here it sits in a place of honor, crying out its spuriousness bedroom upstairs," Vance went on with quiet but firm insistence. "And then, it may be, you thought it advisable to disappear from the house for several hours; and you went out returning at midnight."

"I have never seen it before," be said finally.

"Fancy that!" Vance returned and almost all will be under cultivation this year.

"Mr. and Mrs. Albert Scott vis
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Scott vis
Midway. Mi. Guild has 137 acres

and almost all will be under cultivation this year.

Mrs. H. L. Halvorsen of Hillsboro of house and also spent several husband and also s Fred Weller Honored
Fred Weller celebrated his birthday at his home March 27. Present were Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Elsner and children Marian and Ronald my heart," was his cry. On the in stant the Lord did it. This man also has been growing. He had jus gon from Farwell, Neb., four years and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Johnson and in Hawaii where the Word has ago. Mr. Burkey's brother, who daughter Lucille. work among his own people.

Both men agree to it: "God com mendeth his love toward us, it Mr. and Mrs. Willis M. Hiatt

that while we were yet sinner.

Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.—

George N. Taylor, Beaverton, Pair George N. Taylor, Beaverton. Paid Adv. of Orchardale Wednesday evening.

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local artists. Cast includes Otto
Zurbrugg, Marvin Stalder, Willard
Bauer, Matt Snyder, Everett Findley, Tony Trachsel, Gertrude
Reeves and Clara Thompson. Miss
Harriet Lees is directing. Everyone

William Kassabaum of Portland
visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boy
Friday.

Our classified columns may have
just what you are looking for—
Read them.

The Churches of Christ So
and Hillsborn Harriet Lees is directing. Everyone is encouraged to come as the proceeds will go toward buying equip-ment for the baseball team. Cake and coffee will be sold. Dinner guests of M. C. Larsen

Dinner guests of M. C. Larsen and family Sunday were Dorothy Roberts. Howard Himes, Miss Nellie Larsen and Mrs. L. Terrill of Portland. Other Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hamilton and Erwin Endorf of Portland. Wesley chapel prayer meeting was held at the Miss Katherine Catterman home Wednesday night ith eleven present.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steffan and L. Young visited Mr. and Mrs. John Hipes of Portland Sunday. Mrs. Cleve Owens visited her iece, Mrs. Robert Parks, of Port-

niece, Mrs. Robert Parks, of Portland Friday
SERA sewing club met at Mrs.
Sam Walter's home Wednesday.

Move to Portland
Mr. and Mrs. F. Nelson moved
to Portland Saturday.

Lincoln Young spent two days
last week with his son, Frank
Young of Portland.

Dick Wolfert of North Plains Dick Wolfert of North Plains risited Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Carr

Hugh Adams and Ray Neil of

Sauvies Island visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boy and family Sunday. Mr. Teeder of Centralia has been

at Cedar Mill spending a few days on his place at Cedar Mill. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Page, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kunz and Clarence Kunz of Portland visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boy and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Carr Sunday afternoon.

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