

THE KENNEL MURDER CASE

By S. S. Van Dine

Copyright by W. H. Wright WNU Service

(Continued from last week)

Markham gave an order to Heath, but at that moment Burke announced the arrival of the wagon from the department of public welfare. The sergeant waded into the hall and was halfway down the stairs when Vance hastened after him.

"Just a moment, Sergeant!"

So impetuous was Vance's manner that Markham and I followed him into the hall.

"I could bear it," Vance called down to Heath, "to snoot in the pockets of Brisbane's suit before it's taken away. . . . Would you mind?"

"Certainly not, Mr. Vance. Come along."

We all went to the library. The sergeant closed the door.

"I had the same idea," he said. "I've been figuring right along that maybe that slice of butter was lying on top of the ticket to Chicago."

It took but a short time to empty the pockets of Brisbane's suit to the library table. But there was nothing of interest among the contents, only the usual items—a wallet, handkerchief, keys, a fountain-pen, a watch, and the ticket and berth reservation to Chicago, and also the parcel room check for the suitcase.

Heath was crestfallen, and expressed himself in violent terms. "The ticket's here all right," he added, "so I guess he intended to go, after all."

Vance, too, was disappointed.

"Oh, yes, Sergeant, he intended to go. But the ticket was lying on the floor that was worrying me. I was hoping to find something else."

"What?" asked Markham.

Vance gave him a vague look. "Really, don't you know, I haven't the slightest idea. He would say no more."

Heath summoned the two men waiting in the hall with their basket, and the body of Brisbane's suit was taken away to join that of his brother at the mortuary.

As the men went out to the car, Sntikin came in with the dead man's suitcase. The contents consisted merely of the items which would ordinarily be taken by a man making a short trip.

Vance nodded to Heath, and the sergeant ordered Gamble to put the bag away.

"And you, Sntikin," he added, "wait upstairs."

The sergeant disappeared, and the two men went to the drawing room doors and pulled them apart.

"Mr. Wrede," he called. "You're wanted."

Wrede came into the library with a haggard, questioning look in his eyes.

"Have you learned anything, Mr. Markham?" His voice seemed to quaver slightly, and as he spoke, his eyes roved over the room.

"Where's Mr. Grassi?"

"Mr. Grassi's upstairs," Markham motioned to a chair. "And I'm sorry to say that thus far we have learned very little. . . . We are hoping that you may be able to help us out on this matter."

"Good Lord! I wish I could," Wrede was like a man on the verge of collapse. "It's horrible!"

Vance had been watching him from under half-closed eyelids. "It's more horrible than you perhaps realize," he said. "Brisbane's suit has also been murdered."

Wrede sank heavily into the nearest chair.

"Brisbane's suit seemed to come from afar. But why—why—"

"Why, indeed?" Vance spoke harshly. "Nevertheless, he's dead. He, too, was stabbed in the back with a curiously shaped instrument."

Wrede stared straight ahead. His lips moved, but no sound came from them.

"Tell us what you know about this double murder, Mr. Wrede," Vance went on with grim relentlessness.

A shiver ran over Wrede's body. "I know nothing about it," he replied after a painful pause. "Bam-

ble told me this morning that Brisbane was in Chicago."

"He started for the station yesterday afternoon, but returned here last night—to meet his death?"

"Why—should he return?" stammered Wrede.

"Have you any ideas on the subject?"

"The man's eyes opened wide. 'Not the slightest idea.'"

"What do you know of the conditions here at the Coe house yesterday? I would like as full a description as you can give."

"I was here talking to Archer from ten to twelve yesterday morning."

"About ceramics—or Miss Lake?"

Wrede caught his breath.

"Both," he answered, weakly. "The fact is, Archer and I had a somewhat bitter session regarding my coming marriage with Miss Lake. But it was nothing unusual. He was, as you may know, violently opposed to the marriage. Brisbane took part in the discussion, and called Archer some rather harsh names. . . ."

"I lunched in my apartment. Then I went to an auction at the American art galleries. But I had a headache. So I came home around three, and lay down. I did not leave my apartment again until this morning, when Gamble phoned me."

"You live next door, do you not?"

"The first house to the east, called the double vacant lot."

"Who owns the vacant lot?"

"It is part of the Coe estate."

"And you remained in your apartment from three o'clock yesterday afternoon until this morning?"

"That's right. I had a beastly headache."

"Did you see Miss Lake yesterday?"

"Yes, in the morning when I was here. The fact is, I made an appointment with her for last night at the Country club. But when I got home yesterday afternoon, I found my apartment empty and my mind in a state of confusion. I was in no condition for dancing."

"Mr. Grassi substituted for you," said Vance.

Wrede's eyes clouded, and he set his jaws.

"So she told me this morning."

"When Gamble phoned you this morning, Vance asked, 'what was your mental reaction to the news?'"

"Wrede frowned. 'That would be difficult to analyze. . . . I was not overfond of Archer,' he admitted; 'and I was not personally distressed by the report of his death. But I was extremely puzzled. It was not like Archer to take his own life; and—frankly—I had very grave doubts. That is why I advised Gamble to get in immediate touch with Mr. Markham.'"

"You acted wisely," Vance observed, with a tinge of sarcasm. "But if you did not believe that Archer had committed suicide, there must have been in your mind another possibility—to wit; that of murder. Who, Mr. Wrede, do you think would have had sufficient motive to commit the crime?"

Wrede did not answer at once. He appeared sorely troubled and ran his fingers several times through his hair.

"That is a question I have been trying to answer all morning," he replied without looking at Vance.

"One may speculate, of course, but it would not be fair to voice those speculations without definite evidence of some kind. . . ."

"Mr. Grassi?"

"I—I really, Mr. Vance, I'm not well acquainted with the man. He was after Coe's collection of Chinese ceramics, but that would hardly substitute a motive for murder."

"No-o," Vance smiled frigidly. "What about Miss Lake?"

Wrede almost leaped from his seat.

"That suggestion is outrageous!" he cried, glowering at Vance. "How dare you—?"

"Spare me the drama," Vance cut in, with a contemptuous smile. "I've never wholly understood his being here. He's certainly not a cook by profession; and from my apartment window I've often seen him sitting on the rear porch writing for hours. My impression is that he's a spy of some kind. And he knows Chinese art. I distrusted

It's a Grand Hat, Five Grand!



It takes an unusual hat to do justice to Doris Hoffman's beauty, but unusual is a word that fits the Panama sombrero she wore at a costume party nine months making it, at a cost of \$5000, for exhibit at the San Diego exposition.

him from the first." Wrede nodded his head sagely. "If you knew more of what was back of his presence here, you might know more of Archer Coe's death."

"At least," he hastened to add, "that is my impression."

Vance stifled a mild yawn.

"The oriental temperament is full of mystic potentialities," he commented. "And my own impression is that Liang knows something about what happened here last night. But, as you suggest, a motive in that direction is still lacking. On the other hand, you yourself had abundant motive for doing away with Archer Coe."

Wrede, to my surprise, did not appear to be offended by this remark.

"Archer was admittedly opposed to your marriage with his niece," Vance went on. "And until he died Miss Lake was limited to a small allowance. She would have received her patrimony at Archer's decease. Thus, if you had successfully put Archer out of the way, you would have at once gained a fairly wealthy bride—with no obstacles. Is it not so, Mr. Wrede?"

The man gave a harsh laugh.

"Yes, I suppose so. As you point out, I had ample motive for murdering Archer. But, on the other hand, I would have had no reason whatever for murdering Brisbane."

"Ah, yes—Brisbane. Quite—quite. That second corpse complicates the whole matter."

"Where was Brisbane's body found, may I ask?"

"In the closet at the end of the lower hall. You didn't, perchance, open the coat closet this morning?"

"No!" Wrede shuddered. "But I came very near it. Instead, I threw my hat on a chair in the drawing room."

He lapsed into retrospection. Presently he spoke.

"What I can't understand is that bolted door upstairs."

"Neither can I," said Vance. "It's a matter-of-fact tone. 'It's most confusing. I'm thoroughly convinced you didn't bolt it.'"

The man jerked his head up in a queer way.

"Oh, thanks." His attempt at pleasantry was unsuccessful. "Have you found the weapon?" he asked lamely. "That might give you a clue."

"I'm sure it would," agreed Vance. "Heath, who had been standing by the front windows, stepped forward."

"That reminds me. The boys and I are going to give this house a well looking-over. . . . All right with you, Mr. Markham?"

"Go to it, Sergeant. The sooner the better."

Heath went from the room, and Vance resumed his interrogation.

"By the by, Mr. Wrede, are you interested in Chinese ceramics?"

"Not particularly. I have a few pieces, but I'm not expert. However, I couldn't learn anything more about the subject during my long association with Archer."

Vance walked to the table behind the davenport, and pointed at the Tao Kuang vase.

"What's your opinion of this Ting yao?"

Wrede rose and came forward.

"Ting yao? There was a perplexed look in his eyes. "That's not a Ting yao, is it?"

"I don't believe it is. But I was under the impression that Archer Coe kept a Ting yao vase of the same shape on this table."

Wrede stook, his hands behind his back.

Display Work at Cornelius

Fern Hill Club Meets; Hold Sunrise Easter Service

(By Miss Dorothy Cooke)

CORNELIUS—Girls' 4-H club work and a boys' display of handicraft were on display at the meeting of the Civic Improvement club April 16 at city hall. In the 4-H work, Doris Brandaw placed first and Alice Wolfe, second; in the boys' display George Milne, first, and Francis Chartrey, second. Judges were Mesdames Henry Behrman, Robert Tanner and A. L. Brock.

Hold Sunrise Service
At 6:30 Easter Sunday morning a sunrise service was held in the M. E. church, Rev. George Koehler of the Lutheran church delivered the sermon. During the regular service hours in the various churches special Easter services were held.

Hold Egg Hunt
Saturday afternoon the children of the M. E. church Sunday school enjoyed an Easter egg hunt at the church.

Fern Hill Club Meets
Fern Hill Ladies' club met Thursday with Mrs. Joseph Cooper. The day was spent in quilting and a pot luck lunch was served at noon. Present were Mrs. William Clarke of Hillsboro and Miss Mae Cooper of Forest Grove, Mesdames J. Hergert, E. Horner, F. O. Shay, Frank Hulsman, Philip Kalsch, L. R. Nickerson, H. Farley, Archie Duncalf, Harold Duncalf, H. V. Jones and Paula, H. R. Huson and children, W. R. Cooke, Anderson, and the hostess and her granddaughter, Gloria Ann McCoy.

S. N. Barnley of Seattle and Mr. and Mrs. L. J. LaDue of Aloha visited Mr. and Mrs. James Parnley Sunday.

LaVerne Shay and Gilbert Duffield of Tillamook visited Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Shay Sunday and Monday.

Pupils Entertain
Centerville school pupils with their teacher, Mrs. Mattie Smith, were hostesses Friday to the pupils and teacher, Miss Frances Gnos, of the Iowa Hill school. Egg races, a ball game and other games were enjoyed. Arnold Gnos furnished transportation.

Marriage Announced
Announcement was recently made of the marriage of Miss Gladys Frazier of Portland, local primary teacher, to Arthur Bonodsky of California.

Mrs. W. R. Cooke and Miss Dorothy visited Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Corl of Portland Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Burbank and daughters and Mrs. Edith Burbank of Fir Creek greeted Cornelius friends Sunday.

Mrs. Homer Oswald of Portland visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Dixon, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Beals of Forest Grove, Russell Beals of Portland, Jacob Correl and Seth Frazier of Portland, local primary teachers, were dinner party guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cooke and family.

Mrs. Artn Bonodsky spent the week-end in Portland.

Memorial Service Held
Memorial services for the late Mrs. C. Hastings were held at Neighbors' Woodcraft lodge in Bunnings' hall Thursday. The thimble club of the circle met Thursday afternoon at the W. VanLom home.

Mrs. J. Fowery and daughter him, looking down at the vase. Suddenly he said:

"By Gad, he did, Mr. Vance! But he lent the vase. He looked at Vance questioning. 'Has this vase anything to do with—'"

"It's difficult to say," Vance replied. "It merely struck me as peculiar that Archer would have a vase like this in his collection."

"It is peculiar," Wrede turned his attention again to the table.

"This vase might have been substituted for the other."

"It was," said Vance laconically. "Aha!" Wrede, for some reason I could not understand, seemed pleased; and I asked myself if he were thinking of Grassi.

Vance glanced at his watch. "That will be all, Mr. Wrede. You'd better run along and get some lunch. But we may want you tomorrow. Will you be at our apartment?"

"Yes, all day," he hesitated. "May I see Miss Lake before I go?"

"By all means. And you might break the news to her of Brisbane's death."

Wrede went out, and we could hear him mounting the stairs. (To be continued)

Salute to Exposition's Hero



In this striking scene from the grounds of San Diego's California Pacific International Exposition, a bronzed plains cowboy and his magnificent steed salute a bronze figure of another day—Spain's greatest legendary hero, El Cid Campeador. The towering statue will greet visitors to the fair after its opening, May 29.

Mary Luellan spent the Easter holidays with relatives in Sacramento, Cal.

Buddy Price has been ill at his home.

Mrs. Harold Schmale is visiting relatives near Tillamook.

Mrs. Mattie Smith, Misses Beth Cochran and Mildred Rock and Frank Oliver visited the J. Burki home at East Gaston Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Mann and Barbara Jane of Portland, Mrs. M. D. Mann, Mrs. Mattie Smith and Earl Phelps, all of Cornelius, were dinner party guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Mooberry Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Barnes of Hillsboro visited Mr. and Mrs. Warren Barnes and family Sunday.

Move Into New Home
Mr. and Mrs. J. Delmonte and family have moved into their new house.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bellingier of Forest Grove and Mrs. Ernest Kroner visited Mrs. M. Edson and Mrs. Edna Russell Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Mooberry were dinner guests Tuesday evening at the home of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Reed and family of Hillsboro. In the evening they drove to the Montavilla church in Portland, where Rev. Reed delivered the evening's sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Dixon of Milwaukie visited at the C. Dixon home Saturday.

Bald Mountain 4-H Club Gives Successful Dance
Bald Mountain 4-H club of Banks gave a benefit dance at the Frog Pond hall Saturday. A large crowd attended. The club sold supper and now have over \$13 in its treasury. The club wishes to express their appreciation to the public for their cooperation and help in making the dance a success, and to thank the musicians who so generously gave their time.

Say you saw it in the Argus.

TIME TESTED Dependable FIRE PROTECTION

For more than 41 years Oregon Mutual has withstood the ravages of time, growing stronger, sturdier year by year, meeting all its obligations promptly—giving safe, dependable fire protection to thousands of policyholders.

See your Local Oregon Mutual Agent for your next policy. **Save 25%**

OREGON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
M. MINNVILLE, OREGON
CHAS. L. WALKER
Agent
Every Form of Protection—Fire, Automobile, Liability, Surety Bonds and Life.
Phone 1732 116 S. 3rd Ave

Plan Benefit Mountaindale

Harrison School Loses Game to Prickett; Hunt Held

(By Miss Margaret Mathison)

MOUNTAINDALE—Another benefit card party and dance will be given at the Mountaindale community hall Saturday. Everybody welcome.

Loss to Prickett
Harrison grade school was defeated by the Prickett school in baseball at Prickett Friday afternoon 10 to 6.

Mr. and Mrs. George Meacham were Sunday dinner party guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Northrup.

Page Gardner and daughter Elaine are improving from their recent illness.

Harrison grammar school pupils enjoyed an Easter egg hunt Friday morning.

Tom Robertson of Simi, Cal. visited relatives here last week. Mr. Robertson and Stanley Hahn went on a fishing trip to the Trask river.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hollenbeck and son Howard visited Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Gunther of Portland Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. U. Lynch and sons of Portland visited Mrs. Lou Wirtz and Mrs. Royce Harris Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Baker and family visited Mr. and Mrs. H. Baker of Mt. Angel Sunday.

Mrs. Trace Vuylsteke and children of Roy spent Easter at the J. L. Van Dornel home.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Nelson and Josephine Wallace of Dixie spent the week-end at the W. S. Hahn home.

Mrs. Elizabeth Harms spent a few days last week with Mrs. H. A. Shadden.

John and Vivian Best of Seattle, who formerly resided here, visited friends here one day last week.

Mrs. Nettie Montgomery and daughters, Mrs. William Mellion of Portland and Mrs. Clyde Watson of St. Helens, visited one day at the C. S. Reynolds home last week.

Easter dinner guests of Mrs. E. Luck were Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Edgar and son, Mr. and Mrs. David Luck, Sylvester and Herman Luck, all of Portland, and Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Vining and children of Forest Grove.

Easter dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jackson were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Haas and daughters of Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bolma of Portland, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Merrill and son of Hillsboro, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lincoln and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Raffety and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hahn, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Fair and Mr. Axle and Vernon Hahn.

Sunday school will begin at 9:30 and services at 10:15 at the Mountaindale school house next Sunday.

Sunday guests at the G. Stewart home were Mr. and Mrs. Tracey Stewart and family of Forest Grove, Mr. and Mrs. F. Poe and

Hillsboro Checker Club Has Tourney

Wilbur Dillon's checker team defeated H. A. Kuratli's squad 75 to 53 in a tournament at the Hillsboro chamber of commerce Wednesday night. Teams were chosen from local players.

Results were as follows with points won and lost in order Kuratli team; J. Murrow 9, T. G. Hickey 8, 10, Mr. Kirk 3, 13, A. L. Chase 6, 6, R. Pupolis 2, 14; J. Cruickshank 10, 6, G. R. Asper 8, 8; Kuratli 9, 7; Dillon team; H. A. Kuratli 9, 7; Mr. Boake 11, 5; Ed Poole 7, 9; H. A. Ball 11, 7; Andy Lentz 9, 7; M. Putman 8, 8; H. Batchelor 8, 8; Dillon 12, 4.

Rotary Luncheon Today
Rotary club will hold a luncheon meeting today with B. M. Goodman in charge of arrangements.

Say you saw it in the Argus.

But isn't it awfully expensive to use your oven so much? It certainly is not—since I got this NEW RANGE, my GAS bill is no more than it used to be!



Your gas range isn't modern if it doesn't have these features:

- Automatic Top Lighter** Top burners light automatically when gas is turned on.
- Oven Heat Control** Regulates temperatures for baking and roasting.
- Smokeless Broiler** A depression in the pan catches juices; no smoke.
- Oven Insulation** Keeps the heat in the oven where it belongs.
- Simmer Burners** Make wireless cooking easy; save up to 15% in gas.

Insulation makes oven heat cook the food...not the cook!

If you are economical, then you want a modern gas range! It saves you in so many ways. You can bake and roast in its heavily insulated oven on 15 to 20% less gas than you used in your old-style range. And your kitchen is always at a pleasant temperature. This is because a layer of rock-wool placed between inner and outer walls of oven and oven door keeps the heat inside working for you.

By planning oven meals—that is, cooking meat, vegetables and dessert in your oven at the same time—you are being even more economical. And how delicious oven meals are!

You really have to use a modern gas range to appreciate all its conveniences—see it to appreciate its unequalled beauty and smartness. And when you have the services of both a modern gas range and clean, quick, flexible, low-cost Portland gas—well, you couldn't ask for a better way to cook!

Buy Now; Save '20
Modern gas ranges are so reasonably priced that you can easily afford the type most suited to your kitchen. For a short time, dealers are offering a handy 3-piece range set (regularly selling at \$20) as a personal gift to you.

Get details at any dealer's or in our showrooms today!

PORTLAND GAS & COKE COMPANY
302 E. Main Street
Remember, the more gas services you have, the lower the rate you pay. Ask us about our popular combination rate.

Follow the Leader!

BASS-HUETER PAINT

Use SEF in your BHB

In doing over a room or two, part of your BHB (Better Housing Budget) will do wonders with SEF (Satin Eggshell Finish). This attractive washable paint gives walls and woodwork a gay and sturdy finish. Its semi-gloss surface stands up well under the steam of bathrooms, the greasy fumes of kitchens, the hard wear of nurseries and the glare of sun-porches. Twelve modern colors.

SATIN EGGSHELL FINISH

Covers Well
Covers More
Washes Easily

QT. \$1.00 GAL. \$3.30

Hotpoint Electric iron with cord. Guaranteed \$2.95

Eskimo Mixer Electric food mixer with two bowls and extractor. \$14.50

Hot Plate Single burner electric hot plate with sturdy frame and guaranteed heating unit \$1.00

FREE BOOK For Home Owners
72 pages of the "How and When" of house repair and paint. 23 color schemes. Ask for your FREE copy.

Selfridge Furniture Company
Phone 21X 136 S. Third Ave.

PAPERHANGING

WE USE MURESCO Specification Hot Water Wall Finish; Also Aqua-Finish Sun-Proof Wallpaper. Working stock on hand.

"We Cover Surfaces"

Hillsboro Decorating Co.
B. R. NICKESON
Phone 2102

Lay the Foundation

Now!

Think of the years ahead! They can bring security. Invest in Savings and Loan, and protect your own interest. Free information at your request.

Safe — Reliable

Washington Savings and Loan Association
J. M. PERSON, Manager
Savings & Loan Bldg., Hillsboro