

THE KENNEL MURDER CASE

By S. S. Van Dine

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back of the davenport and lighted a cigarette. "But there was blood on the dagger when it was withdrawn from between Archer's ribs."

As he saw it, Markham, the bloody dagger that killed Archer was thrown into the fragile Ting yao vase that was on the table there in order to indicate—by a subtle and devious symbolism—the motive for the crime. But the steel and gold of the dagger broke the vase—it was of almost eggshell delicacy—and so the dagger was then placed in this other Ting yao in clearing up the broken pieces of the first vase, the murderer overlooked one small fragment.

"But why the substituted vase?"

"In order that no attention would be attracted by the glaring absence of the original one. If a valuable Ting yao were missing, it might indicate another motive for the crime, and that motive would be confused with the issue at hand. It was the person the murderer wanted to think was behind the crime."

"That's all very well, perhaps," Markham returned dubiously; "but we did not find the dagger in the other vase."

"It was taken out and used to kill Brisbane."

"By the murderer of Archer?"

"Unquestionably. No one else would have known where the dagger was hidden."

"But, Vance, that theory doesn't fit the facts. The sergeant found the dagger upstairs in Archer's room—with the door bolted on the inside and Archer died hours before Brisbane was stabbed. Why, if the same person killed both of them, didn't he replace the dagger in this vase? Archer was already dead, and Brisbane was killed down stairs. The dagger had been in Archer's bedroom chair?"

Vance smoked unhappily for some time before replying.

"That's what I can't make out," he admitted. "Brisbane was not stabbed until hours after Archer. The murderer could have been in Philadelphia by the time Brisbane was stabbed. He certainly wouldn't have carried her for several hours after disposing of Archer. The only explanation I have is that the murderer, after killing Archer and placing the dagger in the vase, returned to the house and killed Brisbane, too."

"Then, I ask you," the sergeant broke out, "how the dagger got in the bolted room—and who put the bullet through Archer's head, and why?"

"If I could answer those questions," Sergeant Vance told him, "I could solve this whole insane problem."

At this moment Wreide came down the stairs and walked past the library to the front door.

"Oh, I said Mr. Wreide in Vance called out. "Could we speak to you a moment before you go?"

The man turned and came into the library. His face was flushed and there was a sullen angry look in his eyes—a look almost murderous.

"Here I am," he announced curtly through set jaws.

"So I observe," Vance murmured mildly, "and you seem rather upset, don't you know?"

Wreide's tense attitude did not relax, and he said nothing.

"You saw Miss Lake?" Vance asked pleasantly.

The man gave a jerky nod.

"And since speaking to her," Vance pursued languidly, "do you still feel that you have no suggestion to make as to a possible perpetrator of this double crime?"

A slight light came into the other's eyes, and he hesitated for several seconds. Then he said:

"Not at the moment. But it might be well if you temporarily concentrated your investigation on Mr. Grassi. I have just learned that Archer Coe had agreed to sell him a considerable section of his collection. Wreide hesitated. Then he added: "It may interest you to know, Mr. Vance, that my engagement to Miss Lake has been broken."

"Most distressing," Vance gave his attention to his cigarette. "But what could Archer's willingness to dispose of part of his collection have to do with his death? Even had Archer consented to dispose of certain pieces in the hope, let us say, of acquiring others, I still can't see what Mr. Grassi would have gained by his death."

"Archer may have regretted his decision after he had committed himself."

"I see your point, Mr. Wreide," Vance interrupted coldly. "But what of Brisbane?"

"Could not Brisbane's death have been an accident?"

"Yes—quite." Vance smiled thoughtfully. "I'm sure it was an accident—a most unfortunate accident. Last night was filled with the most amazing accidents. . . . But I shan't keep you from your lunch any longer."

Wreide bowed stiffly.

He had no sooner closed the front door behind him than Vance called Gambler from the hall.

"Run upstairs," he said, "and, without saying anything, find out where Mr. Grassi is."

The butler left the room, returning shortly.

"Mr. Grassi, sir," he reported, "is in conversation with Miss Lake in her sitting room on the third floor."

Vance gave a faint satisfied smile.

"And now, Gambler, will you ask Mr. Grassi to come here."

Gambler went out, and Vance turned to Markham.

"I suspected from Wreide's manner that he had found his Latin rival with the young woman. There was probably a most painful scene, and poor Wreide was given his conge. It's very sad. He doesn't like Grassi—he doesn't at all like him. But I doubt if he really suspects him of killing Archer—though I'm sure Wreide doesn't put it beyond him."

"Then why the insinuations?"

"More subtly, Markham, Wreide thinks that, if we turn our attention to Grassi, we will push past the straw to speak, and find someone else."

"Whom, in the name of heaven?"

"Miss Lake, of course, Wreide has become vindictive and bitter. My asking him about Miss Lake as a possible suspect put ideas in his head—he knows of the acute antagonism that has always existed between her and Archer. There-

Mother's Day Services Set

Housewarming Held; May Day Party Given

CORNELIUS—Special services will be held for Mother's Day next Sunday during the M. E. church hour. Special tokens will be given to the oldest mother, youngest mother, mother with the largest family and mother with the largest family present.

A housewarming party was held at the new home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Delmonte and family Wednesday evening. Thirty-three were present. Ladies' Aid of the Methodist church presented them with a wool comforter and the Sunday school presented them with a table and lamp. A prayer meeting was led by Rev. Charles M. Reed, pastor of the local church. Talks were given by Mr. and Mrs. Delmonte and Lavon Robinette gave a reading by Ed. Guest.

Mrs. Cochrane Honored
Wednesday at the Ladies' Aid meeting of the Methodist church a birthday party was given for Mrs. Joseph Cochrane. The ladies plan to paint the aid room soon and buy new song books.

Hold May Day Party
A May Day party was held Thursday night at the meeting of the Neighbors of Woodcraft in Bunning's hall. At the business meeting Mrs. Lee Hoffman was installed as flag bearer and Mrs. Ellen Vickers as dinner sergeant. Mrs. Frank Docher and Mrs. Pete Sussauer won prizes for the prettiest baskets. Judges were Mesdames W. VanLom, W. Duskick and L. Mooberry. Mrs. Duskick and Mrs. Mooberry were in charge of the games. Refreshments were served in May baskets with Mesdames Charles Lathan, John Rook and R. Schultz in charge.

Leaves for South
Mrs. Arthur Benofsky left Saturday to make her home at Oakland, Cal. Miss Floy Wright of Portland will finish the term's work as teacher in the primary grade. She is making her home with Mrs. Paul McLanahan.

Mrs. Oliver Entertains
Mrs. A. J. Oliver, mite box secretary of the Missionary society of M. E. church, entertained at the mite box opening Thursday evening at the church. Mrs. O. Milne, Mrs. F. O. Shay and Miss Helen Shaw gave readings and Miss Helen Oliver played a piano solo. Maxine and Lucile Poffenberger, Ruth Mooberry were in charge of the mite boxes. Mrs. J. C. Corbett, Ruth Davis, and Betty and Alice Delmonte gave a little play, "Different Kinds of Boxes." Miss Mildred Cook, as a nurse, Miss Dorothy Cook, as a deaconess, Miss Helen Oliver, as a mite box secretary; Miss Yuneke Yusui, representing Japan; Miss Rosamond Mundorf, representing the negro worker, and Miss Virginia Erickson, a Spanish worker, put on a clever playlet, assisted by Misses Margaret Cooke and Doris Shay for the opening of the boxes. Refreshments were served.

Program May 11
Mesdames A. J. Oliver, Belle Lilly and Henry Behrman attended a district convention of Missionary societies held at the M. E. church in Forest Grove Friday. The year's chart of Cornelius was well filled showing a grand total of \$1,000.00 by the society. The Missionary society will hold a silver tea and a special program May 11 at the home of Mrs. George Wilcox.

McGrins Entertains
Mr. and Mrs. McGinn entertained their friends at a wienner roast at their home on Fern Hill.

Miss Vernita Irmier of the Good Samaritan hospital spent the weekend here.

Farmers' Union held a dance Wednesday evening in Bunning's hall.

Miss Katherine Miskimmins is ill with the mumps.

William Manns Hosts
Dinner party guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Mann Sunday were Mrs. M. D. Mann, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Mooberry, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Mann, and Mrs. Mary Ray. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mann and daughter Barbara, and Mrs. Mattie Smith.

Semester county examinations will be given in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades Thursday and Friday.

Mrs. Parmley Ill
J. C. Parmley is very ill at her home.

Mrs. M. D. Mann, Mrs. W. A. Goodin and Mrs. Mattie Smith visited the J. C. Hare home in Portland Thursday. Mr. Hare has been bedfast for the past eight months.

Charles Koonz has returned from a trip to Tillamook.

Miss Nancy Smith is ill with mumps.

Mrs. Fred Cummings is working at Gresham.

Miss Beth Cochrane attended the formal at Oregon Normal school at Monmouth Saturday night.

Mrs. Otto Osborne is visiting in Idaho.

Mrs. Hoffman Returns
Mrs. Lee Hoffman has returned from a visit with relatives in the east.

Miss Beth Cochrane visited Miss Johanna Dierickx in Banks during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Jackson and son visited at Toledo for a few days this week.

Mrs. R. B. Scott of Blooming was an overnight guest of Mrs. Joseph Cochrane.

W. R. Cooke, who has been seriously ill at his home, is improving.

John Mundorf Sr. underwent a

School Closes Next Monday

Miss Mills Hired to Teach at Mountain Home

Ladies' Aid met with Mrs. T. C. Hamilton Thursday, with twelve present. They enjoyed pot luck luncheon at noon. Quilting and a business meeting were on the program. A program will be given for the benefit of the church in the near future. Mrs. Harold Aebische of Laurel Ridge district was asked to prepare that district's portion of the program. It was also decided to ask the Mountain Home Sunday school to be co-sponsor with the Aid in giving this program. Next meeting of the Aid society will be with Mrs. Percy Hamilton June 7.

Aid Meets
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Hilhi Student Election Set
Student body elections will be held at Hilli Monday. Candidates are: Lloyd Selfridge and LuVerne Abernethy, president; Alvin Mohr and Dick Abbs, vice-president; Irmal Trask, Ann Munkres and Lowell Chase, secretary, and Billy Allison and Lewis Garfield, treasurer.

Orchestra Formed
An orchestra has been organized at Hilli under the direction of Lynn Sherman and will play at the senior play Friday night. Orchestra members are Pearl Lowe, Vera Lowe, Billy Currington, Kenneth LaPlante, violins; Leonore Sherman, Harold Meyer, Don Wick, clarinets; Kenneth Forsythe, Earl Hickenlooper, Albert Grossen, trumpets; Art Kraus, bass horn; John Eldridge and Virgil McCormick, trombones, and Melvin Mariner and Howard Davis, drums.

Philis Pledges Named
Philis pledges for next year are Betty Hobbs, Sue Santoro, Ann Munkres, Christine Robb, Helen Becker, Hazel Churchley and Melba Haverstick.

Hilhi Swamped
Gaston defeated Hilhi 16 to 4 on the local field Friday afternoon in a loosely played game.

Graduation Date Leisville May 15

(By Mrs. John Gatos Jr.)
LEISVILLE—Graduating exercises of the Leisville school will be held at the school May 15 at eight o'clock. Everyone is invited. The club meets Thursday with Mrs. John Smeclair.

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grant entertained at dinner Sunday for the birthdays of Mrs. William Stoltenberg and Mrs. L. H. MacIntyre. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Stoltenberg, Roy Stoltenberg, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. MacIntyre and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grant and family.

W. C. T. U. Society of Springbrook met with Mrs. Sam Body Tuesday.

Young folk of the community are enjoying the tennis courts at the John Schmelzer home these bright days.

Chehalem Mountain Potato club met at the John Schmelzer home Thursday evening. Plans for the year's work were discussed. Two members of this club, James Allison and Helen Schmelzer, are planning to attend the 4-H summer school at Corvallis.

James Moore, assistant assessor, is calling on farmers of this district last week.

Hip Fractured
Fred Larson of the Gibbs district fell after stumbling over a rug in his home last week. An ambulance from Newberg was called and he was taken to the Wilcox hospital, where an X-ray showed broken hip. Larson, who is an uncle of Mrs. James Middleton and made his home with them, is 87 years of age.

Goes to Sherwood
Miss Dorothy Demary, who has been teaching the Gibbs school for the past two years, has received word that she has been hired by the Sherwood public school to teach the fifth and sixth grades there next year.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wyman and daughter, Delores of McMinnville visited old friends and neighbors

County Delegates Win Many Places
Oregon State College, Corvallis, May 6—Astington county delegates to the State Future Farmers of America convention, held here May 3-5, carried away a good share of the contest awards and offices, figures compiled today revealed.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Simpson, Forest Grove, won second prize in the American Horse and Mule association's public speaking contest. This was one of the major contests of the convention, first prize being \$50. Thompson, also coach and sergeant-at-arms of the newly-formed FFA alumni organization.

In the horse judging, Richard Russell and Ronald Hundley, Forest Grove, won first in the cattle evaluation contest. Robert Tosch, Forest Grove, tied for second in the sheep evaluation.

In the team competitions, Forest Grove won second place in seed corn demonstration, second in the general demonstration contest, and first in grafting and budding.

Bill Atkins, Forest Grove, placed fourth in the crop identification contest.

Registration for the convention was well over the 300 mark. Andrew Sundstrom, Nebraska, national president of the FFA, attended the three-day session.

Flames Destroy Home at Scholls

SCHOLLS—Fire starting on the room completely destroyed the S. M. Meares home Tuesday noon. Most of the furniture was saved through the prompt response of neighbors to the telephone alarm.

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Imlays Open a New Store

Oregon Products Dinner at Aloha Hall Tonight

ALPHA—New store building here for J. B. Inlay & Sons of Reedville, of Washington county's pioneer grain and feed dealers, was opened Wednesday, just one year after they had established a branch store here. A complete line of feed, grain and seed together with accessories for the dairyman, poultryman and gardener will be carried in the Aloha store. Many friends called during the day to extend best wishes, one of the visitors being a man that had been a customer of the firm continuously for 31 years. This store is in no way a separate unit, but merely an addition to the business and is under the direct supervision of Charles Inlay.

Mr. and Mrs. George McBreen spent the week-end at Rockaway. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rudolf attended the Junior week-end festivities at Willamette university Saturday.

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Gas Pains and Indigestion victims, why suffer? For quick relief from stomach distress due to excess acid, get a free sample of the Uda Treatment, a doctor's prescription at the Hillsboro Pharmacy.—Adv.

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WAS UNABLE TO EAT NOW FEELS FINE!

Iowa Man Tells of Wonderful Relief From Stomach Trouble

Here is a letter of interest to many residents of Hillsboro and vicinity. Eliza E. Beck, Mt. Airy, Iowa, writes:

"I have suffered from catarrh of the stomach for a long time. I was unable to eat without food soaring on my stomach, and my stomach seemed raw. I had severe gas pains and was constipated. While I was in the drug store they asked me to try a bottle of Williams' S. L. K. Formula and after I had taken only one bottle I could eat almost anything and did not have those awful gassy pains and soreness in my stomach. I've tried many other medicines but no other has done the work as has Williams' S. L. K. Formula."

This wonderful medicine is the prescription of a physician for stomach, liver and kidney disorders, associated with constipation, sour or gassy stomach, distress after eating, sick headache, neuritis, rheumatic pain, neuritis, biliousness, dyspepsia, heart-burn, general weakness and loss of vitality.

If you suffer, don't wait. See your druggist today at Delta Drug store. Satisfaction or your money back.—Adv.

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