The Skyscraper Murder

by SAMUEL SPEWACK

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE: Phillip Edison is host at a night-club part yto his just-recently-divorced wife and Oliver Sewell, sportsman and Don Juan. Edison presumes that Sewell and the divorcee are to be married. When the party breaks up, Edison goes to Sewell's home and, while he is waiting his return, is informed Sewell has been found dead. Inspector Marx begins a police investigation. He questions Sewell's Russian valet. The elevator operator is also questioned. He did not see Sewell return. A young medical examiner, with a taste for detective work assists Marx. Their search of the apartment reveals complete wardrobes for women in different colors. In a safe-deposit box they find a scrap of paper bearing the inscription, "Paid in Full." The following day a Major Preston who has been a sporting associate of Sewell's, is interrogated. Then Sewell's widow visits the apartment. She intimates that Preston might know something. As the investigators are standing, after Mrs. Sewell's departure, looking at a mirror door, it opens, and Mrs. Edison appears. After she leaves, her lawyer threatens Marx with political reprisals if the woman is molested. Then Edison visits the apartment. As he goes out a shot is heard. The Russian butler is found dead and Edison is arrested. Mary Pennell, whose clothes are found in the apartment, is questioned. She identifies the "Paid in Full" note as in her uncle's the Major's handwriting. A diary belonging to the dead butler is found. It relates a story of the famous Shah diamond which came into his hands in Russia while Sewell was there. Sewell gets possession of the diamond and takes it and the Countess Kurasova to America. The butler follows and enters Sewell's employ. He unearths evidence of Sewell's relations with the Countess. Also the actions of the many visitors Sewell entertained. Marx and the doctor learn that another man occupied the apartment with Sewell. Mary Pennell receives a mysterious note requesting her to meet the writer at Sewell's apartment if she wishes to clear Edison of all suspicion. As Marx leads her to the door, the secret passage opens and Preston appears. He gives a full account of his dealings with Sewell. He also tells of having stayed with Sewell the night of the crime because the latter's life was threatened. Preston denies the crime. The medical examiner calls on the Countess Kurasova. He tells her she knows more than she admits about the murder.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER XXV.

"What is it you know?"

"This sparring will get us nowhere. First let me ask you—You tell me that you leave Russia with a stone which is worth, conservatively, a million dollars. You learn later the stone is stolen. You accept that fact equably. You learn later that Sewell has taken the stone. And you take that fact equably enough. You make no attempt to recover it. You know your late fiance is working on it, but you yourself have no interest. Because you are superstitious. Because you think it will bring you bad luck. Miss Kurasova, the stone has no such superstition attached to it. Before the murder of Sewell, it was not a hoodoo. You can hardly point to the Romanoffs to prove the stone meant tragedy because they had so many jewels. Surely you wouldn't think that all of their jewels were messengers of bad fortune. You wouldn't? Well, it doesn't matter. Your little tale of superstition doesn't hold water. Miss Kurasova, the police would like to know exactly what steps you took to recover—or sell—the stone."

"But I tell you—" she began.

"And I tell you," interrupted the doctor, "that there's really no use lying. Because, Miss Kurasova, because—"

But the doctor got no further. He had arisen from his chair, as if he were about to communicate a significant message.

Suddenly, A Hand Stole Out Gripping a Pistol. The Hand Swung Down. Now the Curtains Parted

He stood near a curtained alcove. Now the curtains parted suddenly. A hand stole out, gripping a pistol. The hand swung down.

The doctor dropped to the floor.

When he awoke the doctor found himself in what was obviously the attic of a country house. He was lying on a couch. His head pained him. He looked down at his hands and found them securely tied. He tried to rise, and then he discovered his ankles were encased in heavy rope. Some one had bound him expertly. He looked up.

Nina Kurasova sat in a chair, looking at him with smiling eyes.

"Feel better?" she inquired solicitously.

"Thanks," said the doctor. "Just where am I?"

"Ask no questions," the girl smiled, "and you will be spared all the lies that annoyed you so very much. No?"

"I suppose I had it coming to me," the doctor groaned. "I wanted adventure, and I've gotten it. I ought to be satisfied."

"We shall see." The girl's voice seemed vaguely ominous.

"By the way," said the doctor, "if you'll permit me to paraphrase the old one—who was that man I saw with you last night. It was last night, wasn't it?"

"Please understand," the girl said firmly, "that our roles are reversed now. I will ask the questions. You will supply the answers."

"Fire ahead," said the doctor.

"We are very anxious to know—" began the girl.

"What are we?"

"I told you not to ask questions. Answer them. We want to know exactly what you meant when you said I was lying. You said, or intimated, you knew the truth. What is the truth?"

"Is that an academic question?"

"No, a specific one."

"Very well, then. Be a good girl and cut these ropes, and I'll answer your questions."

"I'll be a good girl, and I won't cut the ropes, and you'll still answer the questions."

The doctor groaned.

"You're absolutely merciless," he protested.

"No," said the girl. "Only careful. Well, then, shall I hear the truth? Will you serve as the model of witness?"

The doctor tried to ease his position somewhat. The girl watched his slight struggle without a qualm.

"Come," she urged firmly.

"Well," the doctor hesitated, "the fact is I was bluffing. If I'd known the truth, I wouldn't have come to see you at all."

"You suspected something. What is it?"

(To Be Continued Tomorrow)

LOCAL CARPENTERS WORK FOR SCOUTS

Eleven members of the carpenters' local union No. 1065 were among the 30 persons who worked at Camp Santiam, boy scouts camp four miles northeast of Mehama, Sunday getting camp buildings and tent floorings in readiness for the summer camp which begins July 7 and lasts through August 18. The past two Sundays 20 men from the local union have worked, donating labor to the equivalent of $240 in cash.

Judge H. H. Belt and Sam Laughlin of the camp committee furnished a regular holiday dinner to the men Sunday, and "waited table" for the group. First unit of the camp buildings has been constructed the past two weeks and is a 16 by 30 cookhouse. For this season the boys will eat under tent cover, the state highway department loaning two large tarapaulins for the sessions. It is planned later to build a mess hall. Chef R. G. Boyle of Corvallis will be in charge of the kitchen.

Registration for camp is coming in fine, O. P. West, scout executive and camp director reported Monday. West will leave Wednesday for camp.

Judge Kelly to Take Vacation During Summer

After hearing the case of Walker vs. Speight in circuit court Monday, Judge Percy R. Kelly called it a day and put the gavel aside for several months preparatory to a trip to California which he will take this month. The judge expects to be in the south several months as he will not be called here for court again until next October.

Judge Kelly has been in poor health for some time and the lawyers of Salem made arrangements to dispense with cases in July to permit the judge to enjoy a much needed vacation. The May term of court was an exceptionally heavy one with a number of damage cases being tried.

GOOD-NIGHT STORIES

By Max Trell

Knarf Boasts and Suffers a Boaster's Fate

"I'll tell you the meaning of any word in the dictionary," said Knarf.

Mij, Flor, Hanid and Yam—the other shadow children—looked at him in sruprise. They were all sitting on the dining-room table. Being shadows they could do this very easily.

"You can tell us the meaning of any word at all?" they asked him.

Knarf nodded.

"I'm very smart," he said. "I know the meaning of all words."

It was the first time they had ever heard him boast like that.

"I'm sure you don't," said Flor. "If you don't believe me, give me a word and I'll tell you the meaning at once."

Flor thought and though, and by and by he said, "Very well, tell me the meaning of the word 'inspect.' "

"That's easy. An 'inspect' is something like an insect only it can't walk on ceilings."

"Wrong," cried Hanid, who was a great deal cleverer than Master Knarf. " 'Inspect' means to look into."

But he pretended not to hear her.

"Give me a harder word," he said to Yam.

"What does 'vanish' mean?" she asked.

"Vanish'—why that's what's used to paint the floor with. Any one knows that!"

"You're thinking of 'varnish' not 'vanish!' " exclaimed Hanid. " 'Vanish' means to disappear.

"Why don't you ask me something that's really hard?" he demanded, disregarding Hanid's correction.

"Tell me the meaning of 'dislocation,' " said Mij.

"It means 'this place,'" replied Knarf promptly. The others uttered an exclamation of astonishment. "That isn't right!" they said.

"Of course it is. 'Location' means place, doesn't it? And 'dis' is the same as 'this' except that it is pronounced a little differently. So 'dislocation' means 'this place,' just as I said."

They Stood On the Table

"Oh no, it means put out of place," said Hanid. "You don't know the proper meanings of words at all."

"Humph," said Knarf, "if you don't think I'm right, why don't you look in the dictionary?" He smiled slyly, for he knew that the dictionary was so large and heavy that even if Hanid had wanted to, she could not have turned a single one of its pages.

"If you can't prove that I'm wrong, I must be right," he said.

Hanid sighed. It did seem as if she couldn't do anything at all. Just then, however, India, the housemaid, entered the dining-room.

"Remove the table-cloth," said the real children's mother.

"There now," exclaimed Hanid, "what's the meaning of 'remove?'"

" 'Remove' is the same as 'remain.' It means to stay without moving."

"In that case," she said hastily, helping Mij, Flor and Yam off the tablecloth, "you'd better stay here without moving while we remove ourselves—"

Hardly had she said this when India gathered up the tablecloth and poor Master Knarf was carried off into the kitchen and shaken out of the pantry window into the yard.

"You don't know the meaning of every word in the dictionary," Hanid called after him. But he didn't answer her.

The Home Kitchen

By ALICE LYNN BARRY

APPROPRIATE MENUS FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

Lucy, who is having half a dozen friends down to her summer cottage for Independence Day, wanted some menu suggestions. My idea of appropriate menus for Independence Day are the things that give the housewife or cook a chance to celebrate this day of freedom. It should literally be a rfee day for everybody—and the minimum amount of work for anyone.

Anyway, I think she should have a holiday of it and so should her cook. And the way to do it would be to prepare the day before the kinds of foods that can be served easily, with litle fuss, and which, of course, will not be the least impaired by being kept overnight. Decorative effects, can be supplied by our flags. Paper table service can carry out the color scheme, and at the same time make srvice and clearing up afterward that much easier.

By doing a little planning ahead you can have ready for service without any additional cooking, either a two or three or six-course dinner as preferred. Some of the dishes needn't be cooked at all—just mixed in advance. Here are a few suggestions for an easy Independence Day dinner:

For entree, there is nothing quite so refreshing as a chilled, jellied soup. This can be made very quickly by adding gelatin to any clear soup. It may be beef broth, chicken broth or a soup made of vegetables, then strained, using about 1 tablespoonful of gelatin to 2 cups of liquid. Some prefer the soups jellied without the addition of gelatin and this means long cooking of either chicken with its bones, or a knuckle of veal.

A bowl of gelatin can be prepared the night before, and for serving as soup, it is put into bouillon cups and broken up. Or the jelly can be used as a casing for an hors d'oeuvre—of sliced hard-cooked egg, sardine, slice of chicken, slices of stuffed olives, tomatoes, anchovies or slices of small sausage.

A number of plain boiled vegetables kept in the icebox will provide plenty of variety. Potatoes, celery, asparagus, beets, carrots, can be served separately with plain French or mayonnaise dressing or provide part of a big, one-piece salad. Diced chicken or veal can be kept cold and served with vegetables as an easy main dish. Incidentally, any of the vegetables can be molded in the gelatin and served chilled in that appetizing fashion. An abundance of raw vegetables such as lettuce, cucumbers or tomatoes, is refreshing and helpful.

For dessert, the most popular of all American foods, good ice-cream. This can now be obtained in a great many places of as excellent cream and fruits as you would use yourself. Or if ice-cream isn't desirable—put in stock the day before enough sweet cream, berries and a few layers of sponge cake so that you can have a large or small shortcake at a moment's notice. Litte cooking and less fussing makes it a real Day of Independence for the hospitable housekeeper — who probably needs it as much as anybody!

DR. COPELAND URGES PREVENTIVE MEASURE

Science Has Conquered the Once Dreaded Diphtheria, Says Famous Authority, Beseeching Parents to Immunize Their Children.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.
United States Senator from New York.
Former Commissioner of Health, New York City.

JUST a week or so ago I told you about diphtheria. But I am so pleased that the able Commissioner of Health of New York City is continuing his campaign against diphtheria I want to tell you more about it. Dr. Wynne is insisting that all children be inoculated against this terrible disease.

DR. COPELAND

When I was a young doctor we knew nothing about the prevention of diphtheria. It was extremely prevalent and very, very fatal. Little children who had passed through the dangers of infancy and had not yet gained the strength and sturdiness of school age were the ones who died.

Not only was it a fatal disease in those days, but the deaths were dreadful to witness. The poor children actually choked to death.

I can well recall the leathery, grayish membrane as it filled the throat and as it grew, ultimately shut off the breathing. As the poisons of the disease were absorbed the health and figure of the child melted away, giving every evidence of the virulence of the disease.

It makes me shiver to think of what happened to childhood from the effects of this one ailment. It was the chief cause of death among children.

Unfortunately for mankind, we have plenty of diseases today that cannot be controlled. We face those for which there is no known cause. There are others so obscure that we have been unable to find effective remedies.

Diphtheria is not in this catalogue. It has been lifted from the unknown to one of the best understood of human ailments. There is no excuse today for any considerable number of deaths from this disease.

Sometimes lay persons sneer a little at the scientists. But no one can sneer at what they have done to guard young children against disaster. If there were no other reason for applauding their efforts, the discovery of a means of protection against diphtheria would be quite sufficient. If their methods are followed universally, diphtheria will disappear as a cause of death.

Any community can free itself of this danger. Every physician has in his possession a sure means of preventing diphtheria.

Everybody dreads an operation. I don't suppose anybody ever faced a surgical knife without secret fear and perhaps visible trembling. Even so simple a thing as having a tooth extracted is a matter of concern. But as compared with these the inoculation against diphtheria is as nothing. It is neither painful nor dangerous.

I beg that every parent who has confidence in my advice may consult the family physician regarding this procedure. Your little ones are too dear to you to take any chance of a disease so dreadful as diphtheria. The trifling inconvenience of having the inoculation is of small consequence when weighed against the comforting thought that the Death Angel will pass by your house when seeking the victims of this disease.

Answers to Health Queries

L. A. D. Q.—What should a girl weigh who is 21 years old and 5 feet tall?

2.—What is an impacted wisdom tooth? Must it be removed?

A.—For her age and height she should weigh about 115 pounds.

2.—An impacted wisdom tooth is one which has not come through properly. If they prove troublesome they should be extracted.

* * *

P. M. M. Q.—How much should a girl aged 16½, 5 feet 1½ inches tall weigh?

A.—She should weigh about 112 pounds.

C. T. Q.—What value has—in the treatment of headache?

A.—I am not familiar with the form of treatment, therefore cannot advise you about it. Headaches can usually be cleared up by getting at the source of the troubles.

* * *

D. E. L. Q.—What can be done for pimples and blackheads?

A.—Correct the diet by cutting down on sugar, starches and coffee. Eat only simple food. Avoid constipation.

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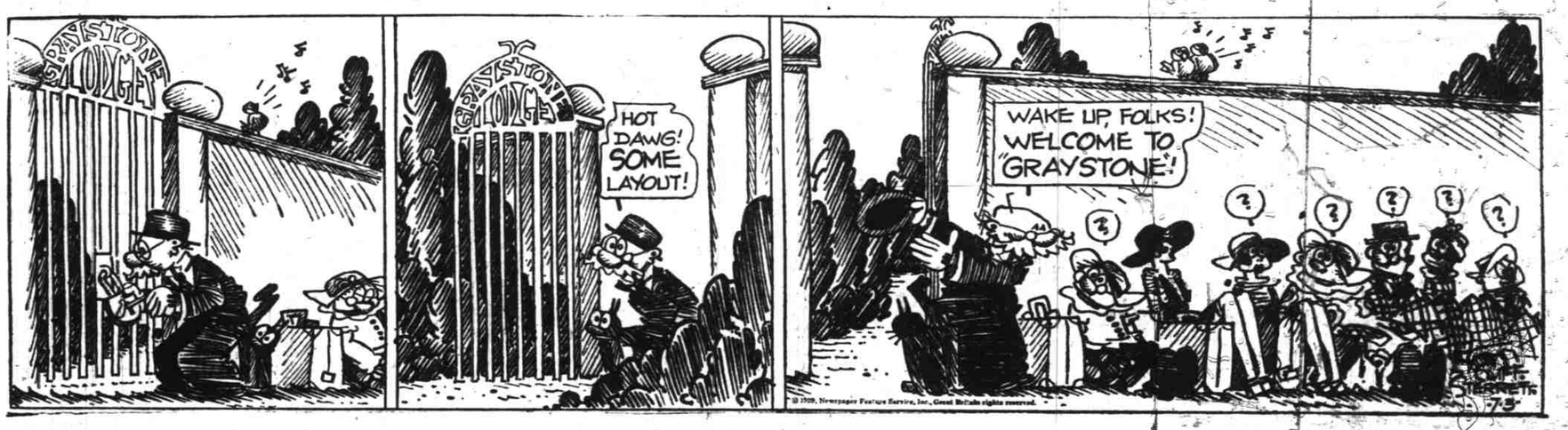
POLLY AND HER PALS

By CLIFF STERRETT



TILLIE, THE TOILER

By RUSS WESTOVER

LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY

By VERD

TOOTS AND CASPER

By JIMMY MURPHY