Salem Market Quotations

FRUITS
(Buying Prices)
(The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.

Apples—Extra fcy. Delicious $1.35 fcy. Winesaps, $1.05; orchard run Romes, 75c	
Bananas, lb., on stalk	.06
Hands	.06½
Grapefruit, Calif., Sunkist, crate	2.00
Gooseberries, local, lb.	.04
Dates, fresh, lb.	.14
Lemons, crate	5.50 to 6.50
Oranges, crate	2.65 to 3.15

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Asparagus, Ore., doz.	1.10
Beets, doz.	.50
Cabbage, lb.	.03
Calif., new crop	.03
Carrots, Calif., crate	2.50
Cauliflower, Calif.	1.85
Celery, Utah, crate	2.25
String beans, Calif., lb.	.14
Celery hearts, doz.	1.25
Lettuce, local	1.25
Onion sets, lb.	.03
Onions, No. 1, cwt.	2.50
Bolting, 10 lb., No. 1	.20
Green onions, doz.	.25
Radishes, doz.	.25
Peppers, green, Calif.	.12 to .15
Parsley	.40
Parsnips, lb.	.02
Green peas, lb.	.07
New potatoes, cwt.	2.50
Potatoes, local, No 1, cwt.	.85
No 2 cwt. bag	.50
Raspberries	2.75
Rhubarb, lb.	.02
Rutabagas, lb.	.01½
Spinach, local	.50
Strawberries, local	1.25
Hubbard squash, lb.	.01
Turnips, doz.	.35

NUTS

Walnuts, 1937, lb.	.10 to .16
Filberts, 1937 crop, lb.	.12 to .15

HOPS
(Buying Price)

Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb.	10 to .13
Fuggles, top	nominal

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Price)

Wool, medium, lb.	.18
Coarse, lb.	.18
Mohair, lb.	.20

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Price of Andresens)

Large extras	.20
Medium extras	.18
Large standards	.18
Heavy hens, lb.	.15
Colored medium, lb.	.15
White Leghorns, lb., No. 1	.12
White Leghorns, frys	.14
White Leghorns, lb., No. 2	.10
Leghorn broilers	.13
Roosters	.05
Stags	.06

LIVESTOCK
(Based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p. m.)

Spring lambs	5.75 to 6.00
Lambs	4.00 to 4.50
Ewes	2.00 to 2.50
Hogs, tops, 150-210 lbs.	8.50
130-150 lbs.	7.75 to 8.25
210-300 lbs.	7.50 to 7.75
Sows	6.00
Dairy type cows	3.00 to 4.00
Beef Cows	5.00 to 4.00
Bulls	5.00 to 6.00
Heifers	6.00
Top veal	6.50
Dressed veal, lb.	.10

MARION CREAMERY Buying Prices

Butterfat, A grade	.22½
Butterfat, B grade	.23
Colored hens, under 4½ lbs.	.15
Colored hens, over 4½ lbs.	.15
Leghorn hens, light	.10
Leghorn hens, heavy	.12
Colored fryers	.14
Stags, lb.	.05
Old roosters lb	05
Rejects, market value, No. 2 grade 5c less.	
Large special	.22
Large extras	.20
Medium extras	.18
Large standards	.18
Medium standards	.16
Undergrade	.14
Pullets	.13
Dirty extras	.17

GRAIN, Hay AND SEEDS

Wheat, white, bu	.60
Wheat, western red, bu.	.58
Barley, feed, ton	24.00
Oats, gray, ton	25.00
Oats, white, ton	23.00
Alfalfa, valley, ton	13.00
Oat and vetch hay, ton	10.00

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price $2.06 per hundred. Surplus $1.08.

Co-op Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 24½.
(Milk based on semi monthly butterfat average)

Distributor price, $2.32.

A grade butterfat — Delivered, 24½; B grade 22½c; C grade 18½c.

A grade print, 28c; B grade, 27c.

Inspect Grasses For Certification

340 Acres English Rye and 80 of Fescues Under Experts' Eye

Field inspections in this county for English rye grass and other perennial grasses for certification have been completed by County Agent Harry L. Riches and Lawrence Jenkins of the farm crop department at the state college.

About 340 acres of English rye, 35 acres of fescue and 45 acres of chewing fescue were inspected by the men late last week.

Sample Tests Follow

The field inspections are necessary prior to harvesting and are followed up after harvest by sampling at the laboratory for germination and purity tests in all cases where the seed is to go on the market as certified seed. Seed which passes the inspections best go on the market with the blue tag, second best with the red tag and third quality with a yellow tag.

Seed of the grasses to be certified must also come from certified seed, so of course, germination and purity will be known.

Seed which has been certified commands a premium on the market over that which has not been certified.

Rust Alarms Soar Wheats

Chicago Market up 5 Cents and Winnipeg 4 as Fears Spread

CHICAGO, June 14.—(AP)—Alarm over black rust damage widening out, together with fears the destruction would extend into Canada, whirled wheat markets skyward 4 and 5 cents today.

Chicago values soared 4 cents a bushel higher than last night, and Winnipeg 5 cents. December contracts here reached a new peak price record for the season.

The top levels attained in Chicago were about 14 cents up from five-year lows made hardly two weeks ago. Adding momentum to the buying were reports that United States government flour purchasing for relief purposes would total 2,000,000 barrels.

Damage in Nebraska

Nebraska reports today that wheat in that state all the way between Hastings and Lincoln and south into Kansas had entered the damage stage of black rust started the new skyrocketing of prices. Trained observers reported that serious damage was inevitable regardless of future better weather developments. Almost simultaneously word came that in Kansas the black rust, root exhaustion and frost results would probably reduce the yields there millions of bushels.

Stocks & Bonds

June 14
STOCK AVERAGES
Compiled By The Associated Press

	30 Indus.	15 Rails	15 Util.	60 Stocks
Today	56.2	13.4	29.0	38.5
Prev. day	55.6	13.1	29.2	38.2
Month ago	57.9	14.7	30.6	40.1
Year ago	89.1	40.3	40.3	64.5
1938 high	68.2	21.6	34.9	47.9
1938 low	49.2	12.1	24.9	33.7
1937 high	101.6	49.5	54.0	75.3
1937 low	57.7	19.0	31.6	41.7

BOND AVERAGES

	20 Rails	10 Indus	10 Util	10 Forgn
Today	*48.5	95.8	89.9	62.0
Prev. day	48.6	95.9	90.1	62.5
Month ago	55.6	97.1	90.8	62.9
Year ago	93.1	102.9	97.8	72.3
1938 high	70.5	98.0	92.2	67.0
1938 low	48.5	93.0	85.8	61.2
1937 high	99.0	104.0	102.8	74.7
1937 low	70.3	95.5	90.3	64.2

*—New low.

Quotations at Portland

PRODUCE EXCHANGE
PORTLAND, Ore., June 14.—(AP)—Produce exchange:

Butter—Extras, 25; large standards, 24; prime firsts, 23½; firsts, 22½; butterfat, 25-25½.

Eggs—Large extras, 23c; large standards 21c; medium extras, 22; medium standards 20c.

Cheese—Triplets, 12c; loaf, 13c.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., June 14.—(AP)—(US Dept. Agr.)—Hogs: Receipts 350, market active, steady, good-choice 170-215 lb. driveins 8.75, carload lots 9.00, few 230-90 lb. butchers 8.60-25, 330 lb. 7.50, light lights 8.25, packing sows 6.00-25, lightweights 6.00, few choice 15 lb. feeder pigs 8.75.

Cattle: Receipts 100, calves 25, few stocker steers 5.75-6.00, common-medium slaughter steers 5.50-7.00, cutters 4.00, good grass steers eligible 8.00, grain fed 8.75, common-medium heifers 5.25-7.00, cutter 4.25, low cutter and cutter cows 3.25-75, common-medium 4.00-75, good beef cows 5.00-50, bulls 5.50-6.00, few good-choice vealers 7.00-25, selects eligible 7.75.

Sheep: Receipts 500, market slow, spring lambs weak to 25 lower than Monday's average, other kinds steady, good spring lambs 6.25-50, few choice lambs 6.65-75, medium down to 5.50, medium-doos ewes 2.00-50.

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., June 14.—(AP)—

Grain: Wheat	Open	High	Low	Close
July	73	75½	73	75½
Sept.	73	75½	73	75½

Cash grain: Oats No. 2-38 lb. white 25.00; No. 2-38 lb. gray 25.00.

Barley No. 2-45 lb. BW 25.00.

Corn No. 2-EY shipment 28.75.

Millrun standard unquoted.

Cash wheat (bid): Soft white 77½; western white 77½; western red 75½.

Hard red winter ordinary 75½; 11 per cent 76½; 12 per cent 80; 13 per cent 86; 14 per cent 90.

Hard red spring ordinary 75; 11 per cent 76; 12 per cent 80; 13 per cent 86; 14 per cent 91.

Hard white-Baart ordinary 78; 11 per cent 79; 12 per cent 80; 13 per cent 82; 14 per cent 84.

Today's car receipts: Wheat 19; flour 5; corn 2; millfeed 4.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., June 14.—(AP)—Country Meats—Selling price to retailers: Country-killed hogs, best butcher under 160 lbs. 10½-11 lb; vealers 11-11½ lb; light and thin 8-10 lb.; heavy 8½-9 lb.; bulls 10 lb.; canner cows, 7½-8 lb.; cutter cows 8-9 lb.; spring lambs 13-14½ lb.; old lambs 8-9 lb.; ewes 4-6 lb.

Live Poultry—Buying price: Leghorn broilers 1¼ to 1¾ lbs., 14-14½ lb.; 2½ lbs., 14-14½ lb.; colored springs, 2 to 3½ lbs., 17-17½ l; over 3½ lbs. 18-18½ lb.; Leghorn hens over 3½ lbs. 15-15½ lbs.; under 3½ lbs., 14-14½ lb.; colored hens to 5 lbs., 18-18½ lb.; over 5 lbs. 17-17½ lb.; No. 2 grade 3c lb. less.

Turkeys—Nominal buying price: Breeder hens 22c lb; toms 17-18c lb.

Potatoes—New Shafter, $2.30 cwt.; Yakima Gems, 2s, 60c; local, 65c cental; central Oregon, $1.45-1.50 cental.

Onions—Old crop Oregon, No. 1, $3.50-3.75 cental; California, wax, $1.40; Cal. red $1.40, yellow $1.50.

Wool—1938. Nominal; Willamette valley, medium, 18c lb.; coarse and braids, 18c lb.; eastern Oregon, 16-16½c lb. lb.

Hay—Selling price to retailers: Alfalfa, No. 1, $18-18.50 ton; oat-vetch, $14 ton; clover, $13 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon, (—) ton; do valley, $15 ton, Portland.

Mohair—Nominal: 1938, 20c lb.

Hops—Nominal; 1937, 11½-12c lb.

Cascara bark—Buying price: 1938 peel, 3c lb.

Sugar—Berry or fruit, 100s, $4.90; bales, $5.10; beet, $4.80 cental.

Domestic flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25-bbl lots; family patents, 49s, $5.65-6.25; bakers' hard wheat, net, $4.55-5.95; bakers' bluestem, $4.45-4.80; blended hard wheat, $4.55-4.95; soft wheat flours, $4.30-4.40; graham, 49s, $4.75; whole wheat, 49s, $5.35 bbl.

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, June 14.—(AP)—(US Dept. Agr.)—A little direct buying of wool in producing areas was being done through Boston houses today but spot business was mostly very slow. Quotations, however, were unchanged from last week. Grade fine Delaine bright fleeces were quoted at 25 to 26 cents in the grease on the Boston market. Choice bright fine fleeces shipped direct from the country in lots containing Delaine and clothing lengths together have been sold by several Boston houses at around 24 cents in the grease delivered east.

Range Condition Better Than '37

PORTLAND, June 14.—(AP)—Although several sections required rain to relieve several weeks of drought, Oregon ranges were reported in better condition today than in previous years.

A survey by the federal department of agricultural economics included:

Willamette valley—ranges undamaged but moisture needed. The lamb crop was described as "splendid" and calves average. Producers held wool at 20 cents a pound but there was virtually no demand. There has been little contracting for lambs, new settlers have increased the stock population and there have been a few replacements for sheep.

Attend Cousin's Funeral

LIBERTY—Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Fischer, Mrs. Glen Robertson and Lorna Lou and Jeff Williams were in Aberdeen, Wash., Sunday to attend the funeral of their cousin, Hugh Warren, who was killed in a shooting affray in that city on Thursday.

Rails' Rally Gets Support

Motors, Steels, Mail Order, Copper and Aircrafts Advance Slightly

NEW YORK, June 14—(AP)—A rally in rails touched off a comeback for industrials in today's stock market, but momentum generally was lacking on the reversal of trend.

The list pointed in varying directions during an apathetic forenoon. Gains running to a point or so were fairly well distributed at the close, although best marks in the rails were cut down in most cases in the final hour.

The turn-about accompanied announcement the senate banking and currency committee, after talking with the president, had agreed to report out the recently pigeonholed RFC rail lending bill and urge its passage before adjournment tomorrow night or Thursday.

Unions Still Fight Bill

Subsequent word, however, that the carrier unions would continue opposition to the measure tended to chill recovery tendencies for the transportation group.

Motors, steels, mail orders, coppers, aircraft and specialties held the best advances.

The Associated Press average of 60 issues was up .3 of a point at 38.5 after a loss of .9 yesterday. Transfers totaled 346,450.

Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., June 14.—(AP)—(USDA)—Produce changes:

Apples—Oregon Newtowns, extra fcy. $1.35-1.50, fancy $1.15-1.25; Washington Delicious, extra fancy, $1.75-1.85; loose 2½c lb.; Winesaps, ex-fcy., $1.40-1.50; fancy, $1.25-1.30; loose, 2½c lb.

Artichokes — California, 4-5 dozen, $1.85-2.00.

Asparagus—Oregon 12 pound crates, green loose, U. S. No. 1, 8-9c; No. 2, 5-6c lb.; 30-lb. crates, $2.25-2.50.

Apricots—Calif., 24 lbs., $1.75-1.85.

Beans—Calif. Kentucky Wonder 9 10c. per hamper, $2.65-2.75; Oregon 9-10c lb.

Cabbage—The Dalles, crates, $1.75-2.25.

Cantaloupes—Calif. Imperial jumbo 36s and 45s, $3.00-3.75; 27s, $3.00; std., 45s, $3.25-3.35; pony, 45s, $2.75-2.85.

Cauliflower—Ore.-Calif., No. 1, $1.00-1.20 crate; Seattle, $1-1.10.

Celery—Utah type, $2.40-2.65; white, $2.25-2.40; Oregon hearts, $1.50-1.75.

Cherries—Wash. Bings, 7-9c lb.; Oregon Bings, 7-9c lb.; Royal Annes, 5-6c lb.

Cucumbers—Hot house, doz. choice, 85c-$1.00; fcy. $1.20-1.30; ex-fcy. $1.30-1.40.

Grapefruit—48 100, Arizona, fancy, $1.85-2.35; choice $1.75-2.00. Texas marsh seedless, unqoted; Florida, $3.75-4.25.

Gooseberries—6-7c lb.

Lettuce—Labish, $1.00-1.25; Wash., 3 and 4 doz., $1.25-1.35.

Lemons—Fancy, all sizes, $5.00-5.50; choice grades 50c to $1.00 less.

Onions—Oregon yellows, U. S. No. 1, 50-pound sacks medium to large, $1.25-1.40; No. 2, 50-pound sacks, 75-90c; California white wax, $1.40-1.50; per 50-pound sacks; flat reds, $1.35-1.50 per 50-pound sacks; yellows, $1.40-1.50; whites, No. 1, $1.40-1.50.

Peaches—$1.30 box.

Peas—Oregon, bush, 5-5½c; telephone, 6-7c lb.

Potatoes—Oregon, local sacked, per hundredweight, long whites, 50-pound sacks, US No. 2, 25-30c; Deschutes, sacked, per hundredweight, Russets, US No. 1, $1.35-1.50; 50-pound sacks, US No. 2, 40-45c. New Stock, California 100-pound sacks, White Rose, US No. 1, $2.10-2.20, US No. 2, 100-lb. sacks, $1.85-2; asst. Ore. Cobbles, No. 1, 50 lbs., $1.10-1.25.

Oranges—California navels, fancy, all sizes, $3.00-3.50; choice Valencia fancy, $2.20-2.90; choice, $2.00-2.15; loose, $1.25-1.75.

Peppers—Florida, 14-15c lb.

Plums—Calif., $1.50 lug.

Raspberries—$2.80-3.

Rhubarb—Apple boxes, 55-60c; field grown.

Sweet potatoes—California, 50-pound crates, $2.35-2.50; Louisiana yams, $2.25-2.50.

Spinach—Oregon best, 50-60c per orange box. Peorer low as 40c.

Squash—Wash., Crookneck, scallop Zucchini, $1.35-1.50 flat; Calif. Zucchini, $2 lug.

Strawberries — Oregon, local best, $1.25-1.40; poorer, low as $1.00.

Tomatoes—Texas; as is, $1.90; hothouse, 10-12c; extra fancy and fancy; choice, 8-10c lb.; Wash., hothouse, 12-12½c lb.

Bunched Vegetables—Oregon, per doz. bunches: beets, new crop, 22½-25c; carrots 35-40c; green onions 30-35c; parsley 25-30c; radishes, 30-35c; leeks, 30-35c; turnips, 50-55c; California: carrots, $2-2.25 crate; 45-50c per dozen.

Root Vegetables — Sacked, rutabagas, $1.75-2 per hundredweight, lugs, 60-70c; parsnips, 30-35c lug; horseradish root, 25c per pound. California carrots, 50-pound sacks, $1.35-1.50.

Watermelons-California, 2.75-2.85 per hundredweight, per pound crates, extra.

Closing Quotations

NEW YORK, June 14.—(AP)—Today's closing prices:

Air Reduc	46¼	Consol Oil	8¾
Al Chem & Dye	148½	Corn Prod	64½
Allied Stores	5½	Curt Wright	4⅝
Am Can	87	Doug Aircraft	44
Am & For Pow	3⅛	Du Pont	95
Am Pow & Lt	5	Elec Auto Lt	15¼
Am Rad & St	10⅝	Elec Pow & Lt	9⅜
Am Roll Mills	14¾	Erie RR	2
Am Smelt & Rf	34⅞	Gen Elec	33⅛
A T & T	129¾	Gen Foods	29
Am Tob B	69½	Gen Mot	28⅞
Am Wat Wks	8⅛	Goodyear Tires	17⅛
Anaconda	24	Gr No Ry Pf	15
Armour Ill	4¼	Hudson Mot	5⅜
Atchison	25⅞	Illinois Cent	7⅝
Balt & Ohio	4⅞	Insp Copper	9⅜
Barnsdall	12⅞	Int Harvest	50⅝
Bendix Avia	10¾	Int Nick Can	42⅞
Beth Steel	44¼	Int Pap & P Pf	27
Boeing	23	I T & T	8⅝
Budd Mfg	4	Johns Manv	68
Calif. Pack (unquoted)		Kennecott	28⅞
Callahan Z-L	1¼	Lib O Ford	26½
Calumet Hec	6⅛	Lig Myers B (unquoted)	
Canadian Pac	5½	Loew's	41¼
Caterpil Tract	39⅝	Monty Ward	31¼
Celanese	11⅞	Nash Kelvinator	7
Certain-Teed (unquoted)		Nat Bisc	23½
Ches & Ohio	23½	Nat Distill	19½
Chrysler	41⅜	Nat Pow & Lt	6⅛
Col Gas & Elec	5⅞	N Y Cent	11⅝
Coml Solv	7⅝	North Am	9½
Comwlth & Sou	1⅜	Northern Pac	7¾
Con Edis	23⅝	Packard	3½

J C Penney	61¼	Penn RR	14⅝
Phillips Pet	32⅜	Pressed Stl Car	6⅛
Pub Serv NJ	27½	Pullman	23⅝
Radio	5⅜	Rem Rand	11
Rep Stl	12¼	Sears Roe	55⅞
Shell Union	12	So Cal Ed	22
Southern Pac	11¼	Stan Brands	7⅛
St Oil Cal	26¼	St Oil NJ	45
Studebaker	4⅛	Sup Oil	2¼
Texas Corp	37	Timken Det Axl	8⅞
TransAmerica	9⅛	Union Carb	64½
Union Pac	61½	Unit Airlines	8
Unit Aircraft	26	Unit Corp	2¼
Unit Gas Imp	9⅝	US Rubber	26⅛
US Steel	41⅞	Walworth	6
West Union	20¼	White Motor	7⅜
(curb)		Cities Serv	8⅛
Elec Bond & Sh	6⅞		

"CONTRABAND"

By DENNIS WHEATLEY

CHAPTER XIX

Feeling that he had gained ground, and that at least she would not commit herself further for the time being, he mixed some cocktails and asked what she intended to do that evening.

"I do not know—now," she replied slowly.

"Why not dine with me, then?" he suggested. "Let's go gay. We'll forget all this until you've had time to sleep on it."

To his immense relief, she consented, and so it was agreed that she should take a taxi back to the Carlton, while he changed into evening clothes, and that he should pick her up there at eight o'clock. They kissed again and clung to each other as though they were parting for a period of years although they were to meet again in a little over an hour.

It was only when he was in his bath that doubts about the wisdom of his action began to assail him. She had been so quiet and said so little while he had been pressing arguments upon her to cut clear of the mess she was in before it was too late. She had promised nothing, and he really knew little of how deeply she might be implicated in Lord Gavin's plans. What if he had failed to convince her of her danger and she gave him the slip! Knowing now from his own admission that he was working with the police, she would avoid any place where she feared he might find her. It might be weeks or months before he could hope to pick up her trail if she once abandoned the Carlton.

Immediately he reached the hotel his worst forebodings were realized. The bland young man behind the reception counter shook his head. "I'm sorry, sir, Madamoiselle Szentes left here half an hour ago."

"Did she leave an address?"

"No sir, but if you're Mr. Sallust she left a letter for you."

"I am. Let's have it, please." With swift fingers Gregory tore open the blue envelope and read the few lines upon the single sheet:

My dear,

You work for the police. To confess it, because you hoped to save me, was generous of you, but if you had known me better you would never have done so. How is it possible that I should ever betray the man who has been so good to my mother and myself?

That you should be engaged in the work you are is tragic for me. I liked you so very much, but now we must put our brief hour behind us because it is impossible for us ever to meet as friends again.

Sabine.

For a moment Gregory regarded the note a little stupidly. Then he turned angrily to leave the hotel. To his surprise he found himself staring into Gerry Wells' freckled face. The young Inspector was standing there, clad in a neat dark blue lounge suit, a black soft hat dangling in one hand and a walking stick in the other. He was smiling broadly.

"Well, how's the amateur detective getting on?" he inquired cheerfully.

"He's not," Gregory snapped. "For my sake let's have a drink. I've mucked up the whole darned business." He led the way down the passage to the cocktail bar, where he confessed to Wells what an utter fool he had been.

"I wouldn't worry too much," the Inspector chuckled when Gregory had finished his recital. "I've had a couple of men following her all day, just in case you slipped up. She's on the road to Quex Park now, as I've just learned from one of the flying squad cars that's sitting on her tail, and as soon as I've had a bite to eat I'm flying down myself. When your man told me on the telephone, ten minutes ago, that you'd changed in a hurry to dash out to dinner, I had a hunch I'd find you here. I thought perhaps you might like to go with me. Maybe you'll see her again this evening."

* * *

Gregory and Wells considered it unlikely that the smugglers would undertake any operations much before midnight, but Sabine would do the journey to Quex Park in a couple of hours and so should arrive there by quarter past ten, or a little after. They decided to lose no time following her down into Kent.

They had spent barely a quarter of an hour in reviewing the situation, so Gregory reckoned that even allowing for a return to his flat and a scratch meal on the surplus of the supplies got in for Sabine's tea he could reach Croydon, where Wells' plane was stationed, by 9:30, if he was quick changing into more suitable clothes.

Wells was awaiting him, at the time arranged, beside a single-engine, 120 h.p. two-seater Tiger Moth.

"Hello! Open cockpit," said Gregory. "Wish I'd known; I'd have put on warmer clothes."

"You'll be all right," Wells assured him. "It isn't a long trip and there's a rug inside. Here . . ." he held out a flat, neatly packed bundle with arm straps attached. "Your parachute. It'll help to keep your back warm."

"Parachute! What the hell do I want with a parachute?" Gregory grunted.

"Nothing, I hope, but I'm afraid you've got to wear it if you're coming in my plane. Government regulations."

"Oh well!" Gregory pushed his arms through the loops and fastened the gear about his waist, then climbed into the observer's seat.

The sun had set at a little before nine. It was nearly dark now and the stars were coming out again for what promised to be another almost cloudless August night.

Twenty-five minutes after leaving Croydon they picked out the great mile-wide belt of trees which gave Quex Park such shelter, yet threw it up from the air in the flat surrounding landscape. Wells kept well to the south of it, passing over the little village of Acol, then veered northward towards the sea. After a moment a single beam of light showed in the fields to the east of the park and he came down towards it.

"I wasn't taking any chances this time," he shouted back to Gregory as they bumped to a standstill. "I gave orders for my man to show a light here—where you came down before."

The torch had disappeared but a voice came out of the darkness: "Mr. Wells?"

"Yes, Simmons, what's the latest?"

"Thompson reported twenty minutes ago, sir. There's nothing fresh so he's gone back to watch the house again."

"Good." The Inspector smiled over his shoulder towards Gregory. "We've beaten her to it then, but she ought to be here fairly soon. Simmons will look after the plane while we go inside and give the lady a silent welcome."

Gregory grunted noncommittally as he climbed out. True, he wanted desperately to get in touch with Sabine again, but not when he was in the Inspector's company. Wells had quite enough evidence upon which to arrest her at any moment he chose, and Gregory knew that she was only being left at liberty so long as she might prove useful as a lead to further evidence which would incriminate Lord Gavin. Once the net closed it would be beyond his power to help her.

With Wells beside him he made his way through the pitch-black wooded belt along the east drive to the fringe of the lawn, from where, knowing now the direction of the house, he could distinguish its outline among the surrounding trees less than a hundred yards away.

The hoot of an owl came from some bushes nearby and to Gregory's surprise Wells mimicked the cry in reply. Immediately there was a stirring in the shadows to their left and a figure tiptoed across the gravel path towards them.

"All quiet, Inspector," said the newcomer in a low voice.

"Thanks, Thompson, you'd better stay here while we go round to the back of the house." Keeping in the shadow of the trees they tiptoed down a narrow path through the shrubbery until they came out at the rear of the building. A light was burning in the scullery window where Gregory had attempted to break in the night before.

Wells moved along the wall of the house to the doorway and knocked gently on it. There was no reply. He knocked again, louder this time, and there was a sound of footsteps in the stone-flagged passage. The door swung open and Milly's slender form was revealed on the lighted threshold.

"Hullo," she said in pleased surprise. "I didn't expect to see you so soon again."

"Nor I you. I thought you'd be in bed by this time."

"It's not very late, only just ten, although often I go to bed earlier and listen to the wireless."

Gregory, growing impatient at this unimportant conversation, stepped forward out of the shadows and she started back, realizing his presence for the first time. He had seen her the night before but she had not seen him, as she had been walking in her sleep. Wells introduced them.

"Won't you both come in?" she said. Wells shook his head. "We'd better not, in case somebody comes along to this wing of the house. Our presence might take a bit of explaining, as your aunt's not supposed to have visitors. We only knocked to let you know that some of the people we're after will be here again tonight. Nothing unusual's likely to happen, but I thought it would be a bit of a comfort to know we were close handy here, keeping an eye on things."

"That *was* nice of you." She smiled up at him. "We knew they were coming, though. The foreign lady telephoned only a few minutes ago to say that Aunty was to get her some supper. I was just going out to tell your man about it when you turned up."

"She'll be here pretty soon then. We'll get back to the bushes, I think. Remember me kindly to your Aunt."

"I will, thank you. Goodnight."

When the two men turned away she stood at the half-open door reluctantly watching Wells' retreating back as he disappeared beside Gregory round the corner of the house.

(To Be Continued)

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