

Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: Ferdinand Frenno draws a set of circumstances about which Leonard, connecting him with the mysterious series of "accidents" which have threatened Jervis Wear's life. Jervis stubbornly refuses to doubt Leonard, and demands that Ferdinand prove a motive. Ferdinand dramatically asserts that Leonard schemes to secure the Wear estate through Rosamund Carew, Jervis' treacherous former fiancée.

CHAPTER 22
JERVIS GETS A JOLT
"There you have it," said Ferdinand. He swung round in his chair and addressed Nan:
"Haven't I given him Leonard's motive?" he asked her.
Nan slowly got to her feet. She stood with one hand just touching the table and looked across the grapes and oranges at the two men. Her eyes snapped and her voice was vibrant with tension.
"Jervis won't listen to either of us. He doesn't want to hear anything against Leonard. Perhaps he really thinks you loosened the wheel so we'd all die together. Or I do you think I had a wrench in my pocketbook this afternoon, Jervis? Somebody's trying to kill you. It's not Leonard then it must be Ferdinand or I. Don't you know something's been going on between Leonard and Rosamund? I don't know what it is but I've known it was something since the other night at the hotel."
"Why didn't Rosamund marry you? She wouldn't tell, would she? You should have asked Robert Leonard."
She stopped speaking, bending over the table with her flashing eyes on Jervis. Suddenly he flung out of his chair, strode to the door, and opened it. Then he stood back, holding it conventionally.
Nan went out with her head up.

SUNDOWN STORIES

THE DRENCHED SHOP
By Mary Graham Bonner

It indeed was fortunate that the sun came out, for the pails of water were filled to overflowing, the papers and rags spread everywhere were soaked, and even the Ducks and Toads looked as though they had stood all the water they could.
The Ducks began to shake the water out of their wings, while Rip shook himself so hard that everyone shouted:
"We've had all the water we want, quack, quack. Do stop!"
But none of them really minded, for they all knew how they had kept Willy Nilly from his work and had made him do things for them. He had not had the time to mend his leaky roof.
The sun was shining brightly now and they all helped take off the wet papers and rags, and dry off the tools.
"Quack, quack," the Ducks said behind them, "you finished the work they had started doing. We must be off now. We must see that the pond isn't full to overflowing." They went waddling off.
"I'll have to go and change my wet things," Flotilla Bottalla said. She really was shivering dreadfully.
"Oh, yes," Willy Nilly urged, "please rush home and change at once. Then take a good hot bath and a good rub so you won't catch cold."
"I feel miserable that all my friends have gotten soaked for my sake," Willy Nilly told Rip. "The Ducks and Toads could stand it, but it was almost too much for Flotilla Bottalla."
"She'll be all right," said Rip as he went to take a nap in the sunshine, while Willy Nilly put on a dry pair of overalls and put everything to rights.

en haze tinged the dusk. There was no wind at all; each tree and bush stood up dark and solemn without the slightest movement. The whole scene might have been painted on glass. The contrast between its stillness and the turbulent confusion of his thoughts gave him a sense of being in some remote and unfamiliar place.
He did not know how long he stood there. The gold went out of the air and left it yet more gravely still. A very faint green light came from the horizon. This too faded. An impalpable stream of darkness flowed between him and all the world.
Suddenly he crossed to the door and switched on the light. The room had been quite dark. As the light came on the windows seemed to recede. All the shades and degrees of the outside darkness vanished. The straight crimson curtains framed blank, black windows. Ferdinand had not moved. He was sitting on the arm of one of the big chairs with his hands in his pockets.
"You're sure it was Nan?"
"Quite," P. P. answered.
"She told you so?"
"No, she did not. I recognized her. And then, when we were at dinner, I told the story of the plucky kid who saved your life, and I watched her to know if she didn't want you to know I'm an imaginative man and thought I'd like to get to the bottom of why you didn't know and why she didn't want you to know. I haven't got to the bottom of it yet." Those bright, yellow-brown eyes of his twinkled with questions. He crossed one leg over the other and leaned sideways against the back of the chair. "Well," he said, "Jervis stood by the jamb of the door. He looked at a bare, blank window and spoke.
"Did she know—when she married me?"
Ferdinand wrinkled more noticeably.
"What do you think?"
Jervis made a gesture. There was no expression on his face.
"Why not ask her?" suggested Ferdinand.
"I'm asking you," said Jervis. "You seem to be well behind the scenes. Did she know when she married me—or did she find out afterwards?"
"Know? Of course she knew! Why do you suppose she married you?"
Jervis set his jaw and was silent.
"Better ask her!" said Ferdinand with a short laugh.
Jervis turned abruptly, flung open the door, and went out. Ferdinand watched him with a quizzical smile. He went impetuously through the hall and out at the front door, shutting it hard behind him.
To be continued.

ACROSS

- Permit
- Thicket
- Light brown
- Swiss river
- Indecent
- Kind of grain
- Visions seen in sleep
- Colorful
- Island
- Character
- Island
- Measure
- Fits one within another
- Veronica
- Plant
- Kind of grain
- Kind of the ocean
- Obtained
- Negative
- Small island
- Declare
- High, pointed hill
- Companies of sixiers
- Indefinitely
- Nothing more than
- Essential

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

PARADE LEADER
GLATES INDITE
AT INTENSED
NESS APES ARE
URN ET ON TINE
TSETSES SALEM
TERNS ROAM
PUREE SEALERS
OGEE STARNET
OLD SCUDETTA
LI REAMERS UP
ERIER RETIRE
DREARY STERNS

DOWN

- Boy
- Spoke of corn
- White
- Lady
- reputation
- abstract
- Blush
- Vehicle for snow travel
- Triad
- Class
- William
- Indigo plant
- Whitened
- Brightest star
- In a constellation
- Obtinate
- Before
- Flowed
- Stix

MOTHER SUES SON
Kansas City, Kan. (AP)—A \$10,000 damage suit has been filed by Mrs. Caroline Barker against her son, George, because he refused to heed her back-seat protests and slow down their automobile. A wreck resulted from George's allegedly reckless driving and his mother is seeking the \$10,000.

SHOES INCLUDED
Kansas City, Kan. (AP)—Election expenses should include everything that a candidate spends for an election, in the opinion of J. M. Joslin, republican nominee for treasurer of Wyandotte county. According to Joslin, "two pairs of shoes" in the list he sent to the county clerk.

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE
GEE—NOT A CENT-BUSTED FLAT—HAVIN' A HOME PAID FOR IS GREAT—BUT FOLKS HAVE TO EAT— I HAVEN'T TH' MERE TO ASK FOR AN' MORE CREDIT AT TH' STORE— IF I HAD ONLY A BUCK IT WOULD HELP.
"This is very convincing—ten years after!" Jervis laughed. "I could make up a better yarn than that if I'd ten years to do it in!"
"There's no one making up a yarn."
"Why didn't she say all this at the time?"
"She was down at Crovston with some kind of an aunt, and they were leaving that afternoon. She was late for the train and soaked through, and the aunt punished her. And when they got back to where they lived, the poor child was in a fever and sick for weeks."
"And you met her again?"
"Last week."
Jervis paused. This room filled with silence. Ferdinand did not break it. He kept his bright dancing eyes on Jervis' face and saw the color rise in it to the roots of the black hair.
Jervis said, "Nonsense!" sharply. "Have it your own way."
"What are you talking about?"
"Nan," said Mr. Francis.
Jervis made a step towards him. "I'm not."
"Nan!" said Jervis. "You mean it was Nan?"
"I recognized her at once. When I saw the scar on her arm, that clinched it. I've told you about that before. She'd cut herself pretty well to the bone holding your head off the rocks every time a wave came into that pool. It was her arm, or your head. And she made it her arm every time. There was bound to be a scar on your wife's arm at the Luxe. I thought I'd stumbled upon a very pretty romance."
Jervis stood for a moment with a perfectly blank face. Behind it his mind, like a shuttered room, was being violently shaken as if by an earthquake. His thoughts slid together, collided, broke.
With a violent effort he turned about and walked to the window. The sun was gone; a kind of gold-

THE GUMPS
NOW THAT ANDY IS BUSY WITH THE COMING ELECTION AND TOWNSEND ZANDER IS OUT OF THE PICTURE TEMPORARILY AND YOU, AND HENRIETTA, THE TWO DEVOTED LOVERS ARE HAPPY AT LAST— LET US TURN OVER THE PAGES OF OUR GEOGRAPHY TILL WE COME TO AUSTRALIA— WE ALL KNOW OF AUSTRALIA AND WHO LIVES THERE—
"WHAT HAS BECOME OF HIM SINCE WE LEFT HIM WITH A BROKEN LEG— AND MILLIE THE BEAUTIFUL BLOND LEFT HIM WITH A BROKEN HEART? NO WORD FROM HER SINCE THAT TIME— AND AT LAST—"
A LETTER FROM MILLIE—

MUTT AND JEFF
MUTT, THAT LOOKS LIKE A BULLET-PROOF VEST YOU'RE PUTTING ON?
IT IS. I'M PLAYING CONTRACT BRIDGE TONIGHT.
BUT AIN'T THAT TAKING UNDUE PRECAUTION?
YOU DON'T KNOW MY WIFE. EVERY TIME I MAKE A MISTAKE AT BRIDGE SHE THREATENS TO SHOOT ME!
FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE, YOU COULD CALL IN THE POLICE.
O-YEAH?
WHAT DO THOSE GUYS KNOW ABOUT CONTRACT BRIDGE?

THE LETTER THAT HE LONGED FOR CAME AT LAST
HURRAH! SHE CALLED ME DARLING—
AND THERE HE GOES AGAIN— CAN'T YOU JUST HEAR HIS HEART BEAT WITH JOY? THAT GREAT BIG HEART OF HIS— LISTEN TO IT PALPITATE!
WE WILL HEAR MORE OF MILLIE AND HER MOTHER LATER—

TAILSPIN TOMMY
I THINK YOU'RE TH' CAUSE OF ALL MY TROUBLE SO I'M GONNA RUB YOU OFF JUST FOR LUCK!
WHO FIRED THAT SHOT? IT SURE SAVED MY BACON!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE SHOULD WORRY AS LONG AS HE'S ON OUR SIDE. FRISK THIS OTHER BIRD, TOMMY!
BARRY! DID YOU DO SURE BUT I HOPE I DIDN'T KILL. I JUST LEFT SCOTTY IN TH' GULCH. HE'S GOT TWO CROOKS TIED TO A TREE.

ANSWERS to QUESTIONS

by Frederic J. Haskin

This newspaper puts at your disposal a corps of trained researchers in Washington who will answer questions for you. They have access to the government departments, the libraries, museums, galleries and public buildings, and to the numerous associations which maintain headquarters in the nation's capital. If they can be of assistance to you, write your question plainly, and send with three cents in coin or stamps to the Capital Journal Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C.

Q. What does the slang term, "dead duck" mean?
A. This is an old term used on the London stock exchange. It refers to a person who is absolutely bankrupt. If he continues to operate in stocks it is only as a speculative broker.

Q. What is the name given to a calf whose mother is not known?
A. Maverick is the word used in referring to an unbranded animal, especially a motherless calf, formerly customarily claimed by the first person branding it. The name is said to be derived from Samuel Maverick, a cattle owner in Texas who did not brand his cattle, his ranch being on an island.

Q. Where is the smallest church in the world?
A. Covington, Kentucky, claims it. Monte Casino church accommodates only three persons, including the priest.

Q. How long is this Polar Year to last?
A. It will extend from August 1, 1932, to August 31, 1933. This is the second Polar year in history. The first was 59 years ago and proved so successful that it was decided to make a similar series of studies beginning August 1, 1932.

Q. How does the electric needle remove hair?
A. It passes a current of electricity through the root of the hair and kills it, just as a person is killed when enough electricity is passed through his body.

Q. When was the first contribution made to the Conscience Fund in the United States treasury?
A. The Conscience Fund was organized with a contribution of \$5 in 1811. Money received for this fund is not carried on the books of the treasury department as such, but is listed as miscellaneous receipts. The amounts sent in range from two cents from a person who failed to put a stamp on a letter when mailed, to several thousand dollars from persons who smuggled goods into the United States without paying import duty. Usually the sums sent are small. No special use is made of the money. It simply goes into the general funds of the department.

Q. Are the sequoia trees of California all of one species?
A. They are of two species, sequoia gigantea and sequoia sempervirens. The first is known as the big tree and the other as the California redwood. These trees are not found outside of California, and in a limited area within the state.

Q. Who holds the college golf title?
A. Johnny Fisher, University of Michigan, won the intercollegiate golf championship at Hot Springs, Va., July 2. He defeated Billy Howell of Washington and Lee.

Q. How does a new pope select the name by which he is to be known?
A. He usually takes the name of some predecessor whose sanctity and policy appeal to him particularly.

Q. Please state the number of distilleries in this country in the early 1790's and early 1800's, C.O.A.
A. In 1792 there were 2382 distilleries in the United States. In 1810 there were 14,141.

Q. Is a new post office building being built in Manila, P. I.
A. The new postoffice was completed in 1931. It is a handsome building of reinforced concrete, on the bank of the Pasig river near the city's business center.

Q. Is Rock Creek Park in Washington, D. C., larger than Bronx park in New York City?
A. Rock Creek park is somewhat larger than Bronx park, the former having 1775 acres and the latter 719.2 acres.

Q. How is the word field used in physics?
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Q. Where was Norumbega? N.F.A.
A. Norumbega was a region along the northeast coast of North America, or its capital city, given on old maps of the 16th and 17th centuries. The extent of the country varied from a region including the entire coast from near Cape Breton to Florida, to a district in Maine about the Penobscot river. It is disputed whether the name is of Indian, Norse, or Spanish origin.

Q. What states were the first to provide for schools in their constitutions?
A. Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

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THIEF OR NOT, TOM'S SURE BIG-HEARTED WITH THE GOOD IN 'BAD' FOLKS, AND THE BAD IN 'GOOD' FOLKS. A LOT O' 'BAD' FOLKS ARE BETTER THAN SOME 'GOOD' FOLKS, I BETCHA—
GEE, TOM—DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL PAY IT BACK, BUT THANKS—
WHAT? ER— THAT IS— HOW'D YOU GUESS?
WELL, WELL— RECKON YOU SPENT YOUR LAST CENT PAYIN' OFF OLD PINCHPENNY— THAT WAS MIGHTY GENEROUS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT MEANT GOIN' BROKE, TO SAVE FUTURE'S HOME FOR 'EM—
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HERE BULL'EYE! YOU CAN HAVE THIS!
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I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DRINK IT THROUGH A STRAW, PUDDINHEAD!
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PUFFY

Puffy, Assistant Coach—that's my job—
With football I'm all quite athrill and athrob.
We have our big game in a couple of days;
I'll bet you a penny we'll win with my plays!