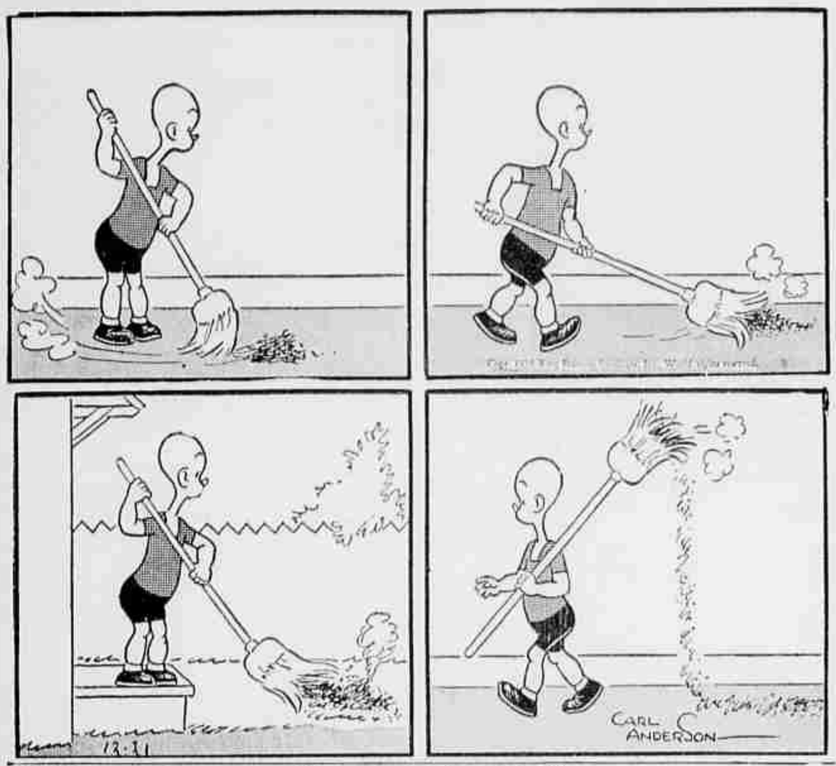
## Henry . . . . . . . . . . . By Carl Anderson



# The Creeping Man

**by Frances Shelley Wees**

Chapter 45

**Twilight**

Michael tore off the paper. He held out a bunch of keys and a small gray box. "With my compliments," he said. "Edgar Murchison's key ring, and . . ." he took the little gray box back, and slid it open. "Ten of the tablets of the poison that killed Miss Lissey. How about that, dad?"

Donovan at a sign from Michael stepped out onto the sun porch and brought in Higgins, whose knees were visibly shaking.

"Higgins, where were you last night?"

Higgins gulped. "S'welp me, Mr. Forrester, I was 'ome in bed."

"Can you prove that?"

"That I can, sir. I rooms with one of the under-gardeners, sir."

"Were you rooming with him on the night of the murder?"

Higgins' little eyes darted to his face, and fell. "You mean Miss Lissey's murder, Mr. Forrester?"

"No."

"You means — Professor Murchison's murder, sir?"

"You've got it now. Were you?"

"Yes, sir, I was. But it's no use, he ain't got brains enough to remember back that far." There was despair in his tones.

"It looks very bad for you, Higgins."

The narrow shoulders drooped. Michael leaned forward. "How did you know the necklace was hidden here on the campus?" he asked.

"Didn't know nothink about it."

"Oh, piffle. Come clean. You were hunting for it, and you expected to get several thousand dollars—five thousand preferably—reward for finding it. And you pinched the key to the study, and gave it to Gordon, who was in cahoots with you."

Higgins swallowed. "I 'eard the Professor quarrelin' with his wife, and 'e told 'er as 'ow 'e'd 'idden the necklace where she's never lay 'ands on it. That was—that was the day 'e disappeared like. I figgered as 'ow I might as well 'ave a look for it as anybody else. 'Er and that Mr. Devoe dug up 'alf me flower beds diggin' for it. A blind man would 'a' known what was up."

"You seem to have overheard a number of important things. Higgins, do you know where Professor Murchison's body is?"

The question destroyed the little poise the gardener had regained. He stared at Michael with terrified eyes.

"No sir, I ain't got no idea, sir."

Higgins went out and Michael laughed lightly.

Tuck, lying alone on the big hammock on the sun porch, was puzzled. She had a strange feeling that she had been sick and out of the world for days, that many things had happened during that time that she did not know of. There were queer gaps in her knowledge; and yet it had been only yesterday that they had arrested Duncan Murchison.

Michael, she reflected, hadn't been quite himself throughout this mystery. She knew there were a great many things he hadn't told her. For instance, what had he been doing that day on the river with Gordon, drifting along the bank in the gray boat? He'd been looking for something.

Why did this murderer—not Duncan, of course, but the real murderer—why did he want to kill them? Was it because Michael really knew the truth, and the murderer guessed? If Michael did know the truth, it was certain he'd found out a great many things he hadn't told. That was like him.

What could he have found out? Perhaps he knew at last where Murchison's body had been taken. Perhaps that's what he was looking for in the boat—a weighted body that had been dropped from the cliff above.

And Michael was so strange tonight. He had sat all through dinner awfully preoccupied, not answering when he was spoken to at all. Finally he had looked over at Bunny, and said, without warning, "Do you believe he's guilty?"

Bunny was pale with great black rings around her eyes. She had been pretty sick after the gas. She had looked up and said, "Don't ask me, Michael. How can I tell? I don't feel that it's possible he's guilty, if that's what you mean."

"That'll do," Michael had said gravely. Then, after a minute, "It's lonely in prison, I've heard. We won't let him out on bail. How'd you like to come down and tell him you think he's innocent?"

Bunny had been sort of frozen at this question, and she had stared at him. "What do you mean, Michael?"

"Do you remember exactly what I said to you about Duncan? That if you knew as much as I do about this case you would never speak to him again?"

"Yes."

"Well . . . can't you imagine what that means, Bunny?"

Tuck's head hurt again. It had been swimming at dinner, and she herself simply couldn't imagine what that meant, except what it said. Evidently it didn't mean that, Bunny saw. She jumped up from the table, her hand at her throat, and said, "Michael! Is that it?"

"That's it. Will you go?"

"Must we wait for dessert?"

Michael got up, too. He came over to Tuck, sitting at the foot of the table, picked her up and carried her to the porch hammock. Then he kissed her. "You're still sick, honey," he had said. "Lie here in the fresh air until we come back, and we'll explain."

Charlotte Jean had brought an aspirin, then, and Tuck had taken it. Perhaps that's what made her head feel fuzzy. The cool twilight air was wonderful . . . it made one sleepy . . .

There was a rap at the door. "Mrs. Forrester," Mr. Deane's querulous squeaky voice said, "is your husband in?"

"No, he isn't," she answered, trying to rouse herself. "Can I do something?"

"Gordon's conscious. I don't think you can. He's trying to tell your husband something, and we can't understand him?"

"What about, Mr. Deane? About who hit him?"

"No. Nothing so sensible. Something about a 'creeping man' he keeps saying it over and over, and he's so anxious to tell Mr. Forrester that we decided we must get him."

Tuck's brain cleared like magic. She stood up. "I'll come," she said instantly. "Maybe he won't stay conscious very long."

She led the way down the path and around the hedge. Tuck glanced about her for Hall and Donovan. They semed not to have come yet; or perhaps they were out in the wood. She felt so safe, knowing that they were guarding all the time.

**'I Saw Him'**

Gordon, his head bandaged heavily, was lying on his bed, flinging his hands out, tossing from side to side, muttering.

Tuck went up to Gordon as he lay on the bed, and put her hand on his forehead. He flung it off angrily, and looked at her with unseeing eyes.

"Gordon," she said clearly, "what is it you know about the Creeping Man? Have you seen him? Do you know who he is? You must tell me, Gordon."

"No, no," he muttered. "Only Mr. Forrester. Only him. I said I wouldn't tell nobody but him. The Creeping Man looked at me . . . ." Gordon shuddered.

"Gordon, listen. Michael is away . . . trying to find the Creeping Man himself. You must tell me, do you hear? We must catch him. Michael would want you to tell me. Where did you see him, Gordon? Out by the cliffs?"

## Tri-Y Christmas Party Novel One

Silverton— A novel Christmas party was held by the Silverton Tri-Y Tuesday evening The theme was a "backward party." All activities were carried on backwards. Games depicting the theme were played throughout followed by an exchange of gifts.

Christmas colors were carried out in the decorations.

Those present were Donna Krug, Juanita Wickert, Lois Wampole, LaVonne Thomas, Frances Mehl, Silma Lindbo, Carolyn Wagner, Agnes Naegli, Connie Reed, Elsie Wiskham, Mary Seymanski, Margaret Middlemiss, Margie Baker, Maxine Dick, Faith Fletcher, Avis Espe, Margaret Anderson, Donna Donnell, Doris Whitlock, Bessie Standard, Barbara Zolner, president Ruth Morrison, and advisor, Mrs. Joseph Smith 3rd.

## Families of Eight Children to Gather

Silverton—The Adolph Rues will open their home Saturday night in an exchange of gifts party when the families of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Rue will gather for their annual Christmas party.

To be present are Mrs. Mable Sletton and Norma, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Rue, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Johnson and Sheldon and Junior of Woodburn, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rue, and Delores and Delaine, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rue, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Rue and Lester, Ernest and Walter, and Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Rue, the parents.

## Radio Programs

**KSLM—1360 Kilocycles**
**Friday P. M.**
6:00—Tonight's Headlines.
6:30—John B. Hughes.
6:45—Raymond Gram Swing.
7:15—This Is Music.
7:30—Lone Ranger.
8:00—News.
8:15—Teddy Wilson's Orch.
8:45—Lile Murphy's Orch.
9:00—Newspaper of the Air.
9:15—Swingtime.
9:30—Jan Garber's Orch.
9:45—Fulton Lewis, Jr.
10:00—Joe Walsh's Orch.
10:45—Garwood Van's Orch.
11:00—News.
11:15—Sterling Young's Orch.
11:30—Ken Baker's Orch.
11:45—Midnight Melody.

**KSLM—1360 Kilocycles**
**Saturday A. M.**
6:30—Milkman's Melodies.
7:30—News.
8:00—Model Airplane Club.
8:15—This Wonderful World.
8:30—U. S. Army Band.
8:45—News.
9:00—Pastor's Call.
9:15—Chet Ryke's Orch.
9:30—Marion Mould's Orch.
10:15—News.
10:20—Morning Magazine.
10:45—Ervin Yeo, Organist.
11:15—Palmer House Concert.
11:45—Value Parade.
12:15—News.
12:30—Hillbilly Serenade.
12:35—Willamette Valley Opinions.
12:45—Musical Salute.
1:15—Interesting Facts.
1:30—Hollywood Buckaroos.
2:00—Sammy Kaye's Orch.
2:30—Uncle Don.
2:45—News.
3:00—First Christian Reformed Church Choir.
3:30—Everett Hoagland's Orch.
3:45—Charioteers.
4:00—Palmer House Orch.
4:15—Enoch Light's Orch.
4:30—Adrian Rollins Trio.
4:45—Melody Strings.
5:00—Christmas Tree of 1939.
5:30—Hawaii Calls.
5:45—Cinnamon Bear.

**KOIN—940 Kilocycles**
**Friday P. M.**
6:00—Professor Quiz, CBS.
6:30—First Nighter, CBS.
7:00—Grand Central Station, CBS.
7:30—Everybody Wins.
8:00—Amos 'n' Andy, CBS.
8:15—Lum and Abner, CBS.
8:30—Johnny Presents, CBS.
9:00—Kate Smith Hour, CBS.
9:55—[illegible] Presents.
10:00—Five Star Final.
10:15—Harry Owens Orch., CBS.
10:45—Nightcap Yarns, CBS.
11:00—Glen Gray Orch., CBS.
11:30—Clark Ross and Ervin Yeo, CBS.

**KGW—620 Kilocycles**
**Friday P. M.**
6:00—Waltz Time, NBC.
6:30—George Jessel's Celebrities.
7:00—Guy Lombardo Orch., NBC.
7:30—Story Behind the Headlines, NBC.
7:45—Lincoln Orch., NBC.
8:00—Fred Waring Pleasure Time, NBC.
8:15—I Love a Mystery, NBC.
8:30—Death Valley Days, NBC.
9:00—I Want a Job.
9:30—Music by Woodry, NBC.
10:00—News Flashes, NBC.
10:15—Orchestra, NBC.
10:30—Uptown Ballroom Orch.
11:00—Oregonian News.
11:15—Orchestra, NBC.
11:30—Orchestra, NBC.

**KGW—620 Kilocycles**
**Saturday A. M.**
6:30—Sunrise Serenade.
7:00—Oregonian News.
7:15—Oregonian Trail Blazers.
7:45—On the Mall.
8:00—Dol Brissett Orch., NBC.
8:15—Smilin' Ed McConnell, NBC.
8:30—Glenn Hurburt, NBC.
8:45—Dorothy Lee, NBC.
8:59—Arlington Time Signal, NBC.
9:30—Call to Youth, NBC.
9:45—Armchair Quartet, NBC.
10:00—Orchestra, NBC.
10:15—Calling All Stamp Collectors, NBC.
10:30—Matinee in Rhythm, NBC.
11:00—Stars of Tomorrow.
12:00—Golden Melodies, NBC.
12:15—Oregonian News.
12:30—Dol Brissett Orch., NBC.
1:00—Campus Capers, NBC.
1:30—Paul Laval Orch., NBC.
2:00—Sunset and Vine, NBC.
2:30—Del Courtney Orch., NBC.
3:00—Oregonian News.
3:25—Associated Press News, NBC.
3:30—Religion in the News.
3:45—Southwestern Stars, NBC.
4:00—Betty Barrett, Singer, NBC.
4:15—Organ Moods, NBC.
4:30—Art for Your Sake, NBC.
5:00—Arch Oboler's Plays, NBC.
5:30—Milton Berle, NBC.

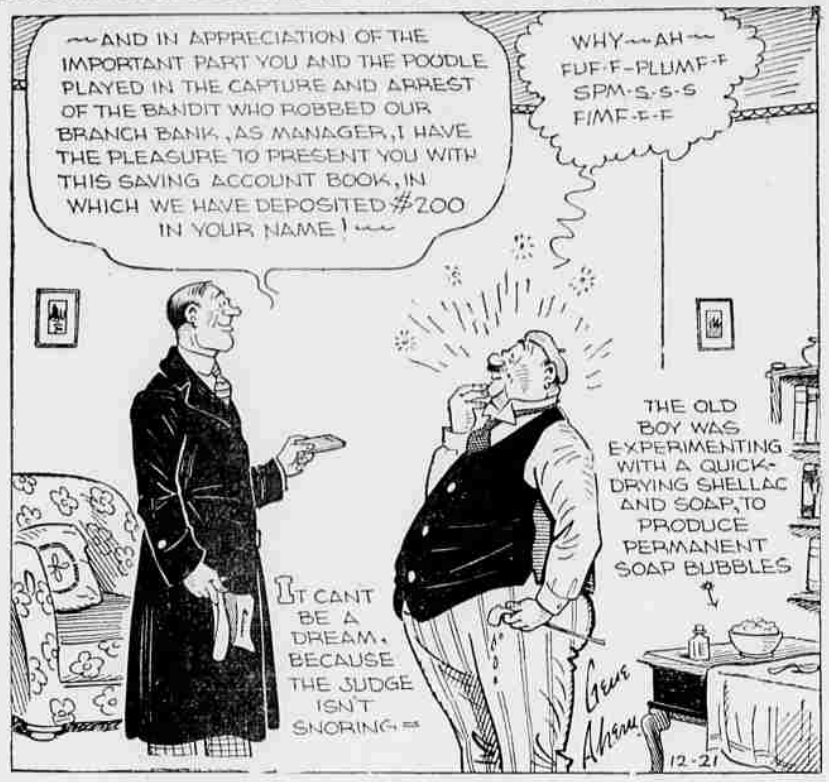
**KEX—1160 Kilocycles**
**Friday P. M.**
6:00—Plantation Party.
6:30—Sports Final.
6:45—Cavalcade of Hits, NBC.
7:00—Orchestra.
7:30—Orchestra, NBC.
7:45—Oregonian News.
8:00—Car. Robison and His Buckaroos, NBC.
8:30—Orchestra, NBC.
9:15—Norman Sper Football Facts, NBC.
9:30—Quizzical Music, NBC.
10:00—Orchestra, NBC.
10:30—Skiing Time.
10:35—Orchestra, NBC.
11:00—This Moving World, NBC.
11:15—Portland Police Reports.
11:18—Bill Sabransky, NBC.

**KEX—1160 Kilocycles**
**Saturday A. M.**
6:30—Musical Clock.
7:00—Ross Trio, NBC.
7:15—Bakov's Orchestra, NBC.
7:30—Charioteers, NBC.
7:45—The Child Grows Up, NBC.
8:00—Norman Cloutier Orch., NBC.
8:30—Dr. Brock.
9:00—The Master Singers.
9:15—Patty Jean Health Club.
9:30—Musical Workshop.
10:00—Oregonian Home Institute.
10:30—Three Quarter Time, NBC.
10:55—Opera, NBC.
2:18—Rustic Cabin Orch., NBC.
2:30—Ballroom Orch., NBC.
2:45—Curbstone Quiz.
3:00—Donohue's Rest. Orch., NBC.
3:25—Associated Press News, NBC.
3:30—Renfrew of the Mounted, NBC.
4:00—Music Graphs.
4:15—Portland at Night.
4:45—Santa Claus Program.
5:15—Paul Carson, Organist, NBC.

**KOAC—550 Kilocycles**
**Friday P. M.**
6:00—Music.
6:15—United Press News.
6:30—Farm Hour. 6:45—Market and Crop Reports; Weather.
7:30—Law in Modern Society.
8:00—School of Music.
8:15—The Business Hour.
9:00—OSC Round Table.
9:30—Government Cooperation with Private Forestry.
9:45—How We Teach: Languages.

**KOAC—550 Kilocycles**
**Saturday A. M.**
9:00—Today's Programs.
9:03—Co-Ed Exchange.
9:30—Homemakers Half Hour.
10:00—Weather Forecast.
10:01—Music.
10:15—Story Hour for Adults.
10:45—Music.
11:00—Stories of American Industry.
11:15—Music of the Masters.
12:00—United Press News.
12:15—Farm Hour. 12:30—Market and Crop Reports; Weather Forecast.
1:00—Music.
1:15—Variety.
1:45—Music.
2:00—British Isles Travelogue.
2:15—Music.
2:45—Guard Your Health.
3:00—Music.
3:15—Facts and Affairs.
3:30—Music.
3:45—The Monitor Views the News.
4:00—Symphonic Half Hour.
4:30—Stories for Boys and Girls.
5:00—Music.
5:45—Vespers.

## Room and Board . . . . . . . . By Gene Ahern




**Little Orphan Annie** By Harold Gray **Short, Short Story**

**Reg'lar Fellers** By Gene Byrnes **To and Fro**

**The Gumps** By Gus Edson **Innocence Abroad**

**Tailspin Tommy** By Hal Forrest **A Heavy Assignment!**

**Mutt and Jeff** By Bud Fisher **Some Guys Can't Get Out of Jail, But Jeff Can't Even Get In**