

The HOUSE on LILAC STREET

by FRED BAYARD

Each of the four men who had assembled that morning in Morris Diehlman's office knew that something of more than usual importance was afoot. The tenacious little general manager of the Brooklyn National Life Insurance Company did not, as a rule, request the presence of the entire claims department.

Once they were seated, Diehlman wasted no time in preliminaries. His words were quick and decisive.

"I've called you in because it looks like we've got a big problem on our hands—one directly connected with your department. I know it isn't really necessary to say this, but I do want it understood that what we discuss here this morning is not to be passed on to anyone, either in or outside the company.

He stopped for a moment, as if to give his words greater weight. "It has always been the policy of this company in handling claims to assume that the great majority of them are honest. To pay these honest claims is one of the chief purposes of our business. I realize there was a slight pause. 'But I'm afraid that all our past experience is worth exactly nothing as far as these are concerned.' He indicated with his hands a stack of files in front of him.

"I have picked out from all claims made in a period of less than six months these twenty-two which, in themselves, might not be unusual, if it weren't for two things that they all have in common. In all but two, in which death was accidental and where we paid out double indemnity, cause of death in each case was either pneumonia, acute indigestion, or heart failure. The second coincidence is that these policies was written by one of two agents, Maddock or Owens."

Diehlman brought his fist down on his desk in emphasis. "If you asked me to believe that it is all coincidence, I'd say you were a fool."

"We'll have to be pretty careful," Diehlman said. "The way things stand, the files are closed. We can't reopen them without some pretty good evidence to back us up. If this thing turns out to be a wholesale insurance swindle, someone pretty smart must be behind it, and there won't be many loose ends left for us to unravel. After all"—he looked at the others meaningly—"in backtracking, I've only gone back some six months, but Lord knows how long it's been going on. It's like the fur of you to get busy and see what you can turn up, but mind; keep it under your hat. If this is a big organization we're up against, they've probably got good channels of information, and we don't want to show our hand too early, otherwise they'd just let you for a while and then start all over later."

At that same moment, Derria was standing in the lobby of a large building. She was idly skimming through the pages of a morning paper she had bought. As she did so, a small headline caught her attention. She began to read with intense interest.

POLICE SEIZE COUNTERFEITING PRESS
Police last night raided a warehouse on Larchmont Street and seized presses and other equipment which had been used to manufacture counterfeit bills which have, of late, been flooding this and other cities in neighboring states. Although several arrests were made, police believe that some members of the gang evaded the police capture and made their escape, and that one or more may have been wounded in the melee.

In close collaboration with the FBI, officers today are continuing their investigation, which they are certain will lead to the ultimate breaking up of a national counterfeit ring.

"A warehouse on Larchmont Street—why Larchmont Street was only about three blocks from the Liberty Laundry. Could this have any connection with the man on the bus?" The elevator whisked Derria up to the twelfth floor. She pushed through the door of Brooke-MacIntosh, Incorporated. Walking quickly through the general office, where a number of stenographers and the receptionist echoed, "Good morning," she entered her own, still deriving some satisfaction from the new "Derria Martin" boldly stenciled on the door.

Derria began at once on a mass of correspondence. Miss Turner came in, carrying her inevitable dictation book and pencil.

"Good morning, Miss Martin. Miss Lynne, I mean Mrs. Holway, is in the outer office and was wondering if you had time to see her."

"Of course; please ask her to come in."

The girl who entered was strikingly lovely, with a definite Latin cast to her features. Dressed completely in black, her smartness was accentuated by a dramatic silver pin worn high, and matching silver bracelets over her kid gloves. Long dark hair was drawn smoothly back in a low, sophisticated roll. Completely poised, she sat down across from Derria.

"Hello, darling, how's everything going?"

Derria offered her a cigarette. "Pretty well, on the whole. I'm glad you dropped by, Cherry. I only got in a little while ago myself. I've been working on those suggestions of yours, though, and this will give me the opportunity to show you what I've done so far. How are things at the Zodiac these nights?"

Cherry laughed. "Never better. Dave says that if the nights' takes continue to be what they've been lately, we'll soon be able to retire."

Suddenly Cherry glanced at her watch. "Gosh, I've got to get out of here. I've a luncheon date, and lots to do before then." She walked over to the door. "By the way"—she turned to look at Derria as she went out the door—"bring those sketches out yourself on Monday when they're completed, will you? I'd like to show you our new bar. And do drop into the club sometime, darling. A friend of mine has written a swell new song for me that I'd like you to hear."

(To Be Continued)

APPEAR WITH POT HOLDERS
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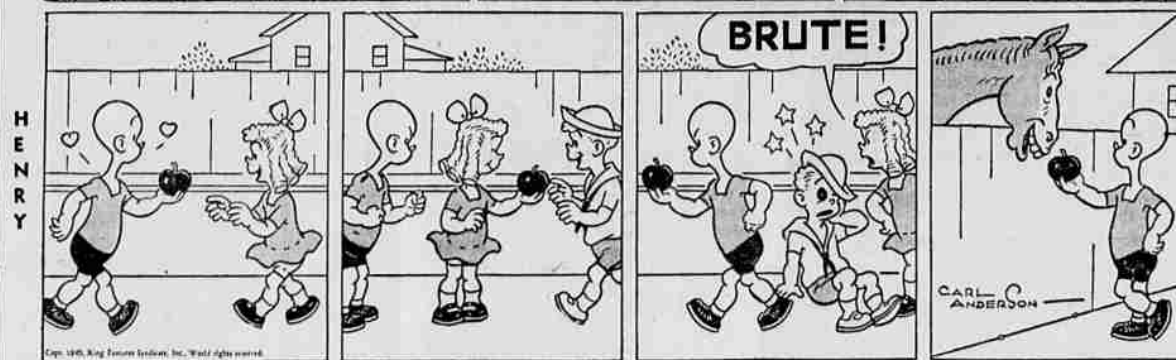
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RADIO PROGRAMS

FRIDAY—P.M.

Time	KSLM	KGW	KOCO	KOIN
5:00	Walter Trohan	Woman's Secret	Rhythm Ranch	Curt Massey
5:15	Frank Hemingway	Sunny Side	Rhythm Ranch	The Little Show
5:30	Passing Parade	Richard Harkness	Blue Cross	Songs of Prairie
5:45	Carmen Cavallera	Richard Harkness	Blue Cross	Larry Le Beau
6:00	Ted Drake	Flight by Request	Candle Light & Silver	Knox Manning
6:15	Ady. of Champ.	Paletta at Piano	Phibascia	Chet Huntley
6:30	Northwest News	Webster Says	Pat O'Brien	This is Broadway
6:45	Fishing, Hunting	My Good Wife	Musical Jackpot	This is Broadway
7:00	Old Barber Shop	Dr. I Q	Handstand	This is Broadway
7:15	This is Music	Bill Stern	Durool Dope	Xavier Cugat
7:30	Cisco Kid	Rhythm Time	Baseball	Nation's Defense
7:45	Straight Arrow	Supper Club	Baseball	Nation's Defense
8:00	Straight Arrow	News of World	Baseball	Lowell Thomas
8:15	Music	Tree in Brooklyn	Baseball	Jack Smith
8:30	Select Local News	Blitz Town	Baseball	Summer, St. Louis
8:45	News	Sports Page Final	Baseball	Summer, St. Louis
9:00	News	Blitz Town	Baseball	Five Star Final
9:15	Music	Blitz Town	Baseball	Sports Spotlight
9:30	Walter Trohan	Sam Hayes	Track 1490	Columbia Feature
9:45	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Serenade
10:00	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	You & the World
10:15	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Orchestra
10:30	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Serenade
10:45	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	You & the World
11:00	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Orchestra
11:15	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Serenade
11:30	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	You & the World
11:45	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Orchestra
12:00	Bob Foote Show	Wax Museum	Track 1490	Serenade

RADIO PROGRAMS

SATURDAY—6 A.M. TO 4:45 P.M.

Time	KSLM	KGW	KOCO	KOIN
6:00	News	News	News	News
6:15	News	News	News	News
6:30	News	News	News	News
6:45	News	News	News	News
7:00	News	News	News	News
7:15	News	News	News	News
7:30	News	News	News	News
7:45	News	News	News	News
8:00	News	News	News	News
8:15	News	News	News	News
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10:00	News	News	News	News
10:15	News	News	News	News
10:30	News	News	News	News
10:45	News	News	News	News
11:00	News	News	News	News
11:15	News	News	News	News
11:30	News	News	News	News
11:45	News	News	News	News
12:00	News	News	News	News

DIAL LISTINGS: KEX, 1190; KOAC, 850

KEX Friday P.M.—5:00, Squirrel Cages; 5:30, Yukon Challenges; 6:00, Keep up With Sports; 6:15, Home Edition News; 6:30, Modern Romances; 7:00, Headline Edition; 7:15, Elmer Davis; 7:30, The Story of Beanie and His Band; 8:00, Your FBI; 8:30, Fat Man; 9:00, North Western Skies; 10, Richfield Reporter; 10:15, Internation; 10:30, Concert Hour; 11:30, Music in Tomorrow; 12:00, Xtra Hour; 1:00, Sign Off.

KOAC Friday P.M.—6:00, On the Spot; 6:30, 500 Sports Club; 6:50, News; 7:15, Dinner; 7:30, Music of Czechoslovakia; 7:45, Evening Farm Hour; 8, Kotelanska Concert; 8:15, Here's to Veterans; 8:30, Great Songs; 8:45, Longest Fire Weather Forecast; 9:00, Music That Endures; 9:15, Lift Up Thy Voice; 10:00, Adventures in Research; 10:15, Serenade; 10:45, News; 11:00, Sign Off.

Grain Produces Well
Fairview — Combining grain in this area is progressing and spring-sewn barley has been yielding good and tests have been above standard of 48 pounds per bushel. At the W. J. Marley field of 12 acres, 320 sacks of barley were re-ceived.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Arabian garment
4. Mimic
9. Neckpiece
12. Cap
13. Unit of weight
14. Possess
15. Flight
18. Huge wave
19. Rodent
20. Supplication
22. Thicken
25. Mail
28. Went ahead
29. Feminine
31. Ditch
32. Geographic
33. Geographical
34. Exclamation of disgust
35. Two: prefix
36. Exits
37. Daughter of Agamemnon
38. Supper
39. Orderly
40. Liter
41. Tropical fruit
42. Public conveyance
44. Purpose
45. Unusable
46. Palm animal
48. Fortification
56. Distant: prefix
58. Watch closely
59. Periods of time
60. Wrote fluid
61. Blamese colts
62. Exclamation of disgust
63. Rather than
64. Recorded proceedings
65. Chum
66. Rather than

DOWN
2. Uncooked
3. Move
5. Lowest point
6. Have debts
7. Conjunction
8. Beverage
10. Clear
11. Rent
12. Recreational contest
13. Heather
14. Covered with rain
15. Wooden shoe
16. Threefold
17. Pharmaceutical name for honey
18. Organ of hearing
19. Arrangement
20. Half-giant
21. Diminish
22. Italian viola maker
23. Active
24. Alder trees
25. Scattered
26. Congealed water
27. Negative
28. American
29. Indian
30. Room in a harem
31. Equality
32. Number
33. Wild animal

Room and Board

WHEN YOU GO THRU TH' OFFICE LOBBY, DROP ONE OF TH' BAGS FOR A HINT—NO—YOU'D BETTER, NOT—TH' STAFF 'LL COME UP AND JOIN IN WITH US ON TH' EATS!

THEY DON'T SERVE ENOUGH FOOD HERE TO SATISFY A BOWL OF TROPICAL FISH—BAH—GIVING US ONE LAMB CHOP LAST NIGHT AND THE CHOPS WERE THINNER THAN SHOE TONGUES!—SO I WENT OUT AND BOUGHT US SOME ORANGES, APPLES, CHEESE, SAUSAGE AND RYE BREAD!

AUXILIARY FOOD

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT CHEWING GUM

HEALTHFUL—REFRESHING—DELICIOUS

Flaid Fruit X' Stitch—Add lots of color to your towel collection or cheer your eating on luncheon or breakfast cloths with these six good-looking-to-see cross-stitch fruits. Easy stitchery and fun to do, for a simple to follow color guide is included with the pattern.

Pattern Envelope No. R2554 contains hot-iron transfers for 6 fruit designs, material requirements, stitch illustrations and complete embroidery and finishing directions.

To obtain this pattern, send 20c in COINS, giving pattern number, your name, address and zone number to Peggy Roberts, Capital Journal, 828 Mission Street, San Francisco 3, Calif.

MARY WORTH

YOU'RE GOT SOME KIND OF IDEA ABOUT WARFORD'S NOT COMING ABOUT THE 'COMET', HAVEN'T YOU, SALTY?—COME ON! WHAT IS IT?

WELL, MR. TATE, I THINK HE DIDN'T HAVE THE BEST OF PURPOSE, AND I ALSO THINK HE'S WHERE HE CAN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

THREE MOTION-PICTURE CAMERA TRIPDS AND SIX FLOODLIGHTS—THAT CHECKS, BILL, WHAT'S NEXT?

I'M TRYING TO FIND THE KEY TO THIS BOX, IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ON THIS RING!

HEY, JOE, WHERE'S THE KEY TO THIS BIG BOX?

I GAVE YOU AL THE KEYS I HAD IF IT AIN'T THERE I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS.

OH BOY! IT TOOK AN HOUR, BUT IT'S WORTH IT!

YES, A QUARTER

IT'S MINE... IT WAS MY IDEA!

YEAH, BUT IT WAS MY GUM!

AND MY STRING!

OKAY, THEN WE'LL FLIP FOR IT!

Glad you called, Mary! I'll send the best bone specialist on the west coast to attend your friend's child; they'll pay only what they can afford...

BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THE CROWDED CONDITIONS IN THAT HOSPITAL!—EVEN THOUGH I AM A TRUSTEE!

THERE IS SOMETHING YOU COULD DO, HOWEVER, TO EASE THE SITUATION!—WHY DON'T YOU COME BACK AND DISCUSS IT WITH ME?