A Man Is Missing

By ERLE STANLEY GARDNER

(Creator of the famous fictional detective, Perry Mason)

Hank turned the card over and studied the photograph

(Chapter One)

Sheriff Bill Catlin spilled the contents of the envelope on his battered desk and glowered at the younger man across from him, who sat uncomfortably attentive.

"The trouble with these dudes," the sheriff said, "is that they think out here in Idaho we ain't civilized. Now, here's Ed Harvel, the chief of police that was visiting out here three years ago. He wants me to locate an amnesia victim, and he writes me a two-page letter telling me how to go about it."

Hank Lucas nodded vaguely as the sheriff's steely eyes looked up over the top of his spectacles.

"Now, this here chap," the sheriff went on, "had a previous attack. He wandered off on his own. Was gone for three months, came back, and didn't know where he'd been. Didn't know what he'd done, what name he went under, where he lived, or anything about it. He just left his office five o'clock one afternoon and started for home. He showed up three months later. Ain't that a heck of a note?"

"That," Lucas agreed, "is a heck of a note."

"Now then," the sheriff went on, "a year ago he did it again. Disappeared last September. But this time he writes his wife a picture post card. Sends it to her 'way back last October."

"Hey, wait a minute," Hank said. "If he sent his wife a picture post card, his mind hasn't gone plumb blank. How did he know where to address it?"

"I'm coming to that," the sheriff said. "That's the funny thing. He'd been married three years, but he addressed the post card to his wife under her maiden name and sent it to the old address where she lived when he was courting her."

Hank didn't say anything.

"Now, Ed Harvel," the sheriff went on, "suggests this chap, whose name is Frank Adrian, is still going under his own name, because he signed the post card 'Frank.' This here amnesia guy seems to have gone over in the Middle Fork country and lived in a cabin. He had a camera, and someone took his picture standing in front of his cabin. It was sent to his wife—addressed to her, like I said, under her maiden name, Corliss Lathan.

"The post card was mailed from Twin Falls. Darned if they did'nt waste a lot of time corresponding with the folks down in Twin Falls. Then finally someone suggested it might be the Middle Fork country, and it seems like the man who is in charge of the missing-person department found out Ed Harvel had been out here three years ago. So he goes to Ed and asks Ed for the name of the sheriff."

The sheriff pushed the photographic post card across the desk. "Take a look."

Hank looked at the card. On the side reserved for the message was written: "Corliss, dear, this shows where I am living. It's the wildest, most inaccessible place you can imagine. I still feel the results of that auto accident six weeks ago, but what with climbing around these mountains, living on venison and trout, getting lots of fresh air and exercise, I'll be fit in no time at all."

Hank turned the card over and studied the photograph of a mountain cabin, with a man standing in front of it smiling fatuously at the camera. "Auto accident?" Hank asked.

"According to Ed Harvel, that accident was three years ago. The date on the card shows it was sent about six weeks after the guy disappeared the second time. Apparently he got his head banged in that accident, and whenever his memory slips a cog, it goes back to the time of that accident."

Hank studied the post card.

"A trapper's cabin," he said, "up on a ridge. It was built in the fall. You can see where the trees were chopped off around near the cabin—indicates there was about three feet of snow on the ground. The guy's sure a tenderfoot."

"He is, for a fact," the sheriff agreed.

"Those high boots," Hank went on. "Hobails in 'em too. Bet they weigh a ton. Look at that hunting knife hanging on his belt. Pretty far front. No protection on the sheath . . . What makes you think the cabin's around here?"

"Notice that little 'T.M.' up in the corner?"

Hank nodded.

"That's Tom Morton's initials. He puts 'em on the post cards he prints, with a string of figures after 'em."

"You talk with Tom?" Hank asked.

"Well, now," the sheriff said, "you see, it's like this, Hank. I want you to sorta help me out."

"Now, wait a minute," Hank said. "They way you're talkin', Bill, you have gone and made some arrangements."

"Nothing out of the way," Sheriff Catlin said hastily. "I've got you a couple of customers. A couple of dudes."

"Who?" Hank asked.

"Seems like this Corliss Adrian has all of a sudden got in a lather to get her husband located. Seems like there's another man been hanging around, and maybe she'd like to get a divorce. To do that she'd like to make a charge of desertion and serve papers. Or, in case she's a widow, then she could get married again right away. This here new man has got lots of money, and he's willing to spend it. And the high-powered city detective who's been in charge of the investigation, a chap by the name of James DeWitt, has a vacation coming up. So he and this Corliss Adrian are driving out together."

Hank said, "Well, I've got my pack string where I could take a party into the Middle Fork."

The sheriff and Hank Lucas turned in at Tom Morton's doorway.

A few minutes later the photographer, tall, thin, wrapped in an aura of acid fixing bath which gave him the odor of a dill pickle, said, "What can I do for you boys?"

Bill Catlin showed him the photograph. "You make this post card, Tom?"

The photographer took the print, turned it over, and examined the figures in the upper right-hand corner. "That's right," he said. "Last year I had a chance to pick up three or four lots of post-card paper on which the expiration date had passed. I put figures on them so I'd know which lot was which, in case I had to discard one."

"Try and think when you made it."

Morton examined the figure on the post card, said, "Say, wait a minute. I'm kind of beginning to remember something about that picture. The guy wanted just one print made."

"What's so funny about that?"

"Well, when people want a picture put on post cards, usually they want at least a dozen, to send to friends. This fellow came in and said he wanted one print made, and only one."

"Remember what he looked like?"

"He was the guy in the picture."

"Well, now, that's interesting. Probably along about last September?"

Morton studied the pen-and-ink number on the upper right-hand corner of the postal card, said, "I didn't think the stuff was still on hand in September. This was a batch I got around April. I thought it was gone by August. Guess I'm wrong, though."

"Well, Tom, just make a photo of this here post card and make us half a dozen prints right quick."

As the two men went clump-clump-clumping out along the board corridor, Hank Lucas said to the sheriff, "You know, Bill, if that fellow'd been in the Middle Fork country ever since last fall, I'd have known about it."

"I know," the sheriff said soothingly "but this here Ed Harvel, he thinks the only way to make a search is to go on into the Middle Fork and prowl up and down the country looking for this cabin."

"The cabin," Hank said, "can probably be located. It's up on a ridge, was built by someone who had a line of traps, was started in the fall before there was any snow on the ground, and finished after there'd been a storm that brought in about three feet of snow. You can tell where the stumps were cut close to the ground and then higher up. And those last saplings that stick out over the door to hang traps and stuff on were cut off five feet above the ground. The stumps are right near the cabin."

Bill Catlin grinned at him. "I wouldn't say anything like that to this detective that's coming out, Hank."

"Why not?"

"Well, now," the sheriff said, "it's a funny thing about city detectives. They think they're the only ones can do any of this here deductive reasoning."

(Sheriff Catlin and Hank are on the trail of a strange murderer. Don't miss tomorrow's installment.)

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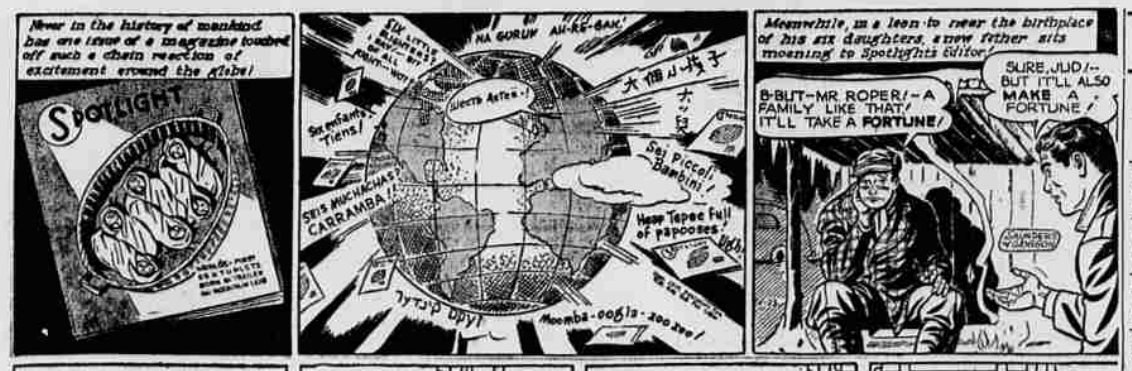
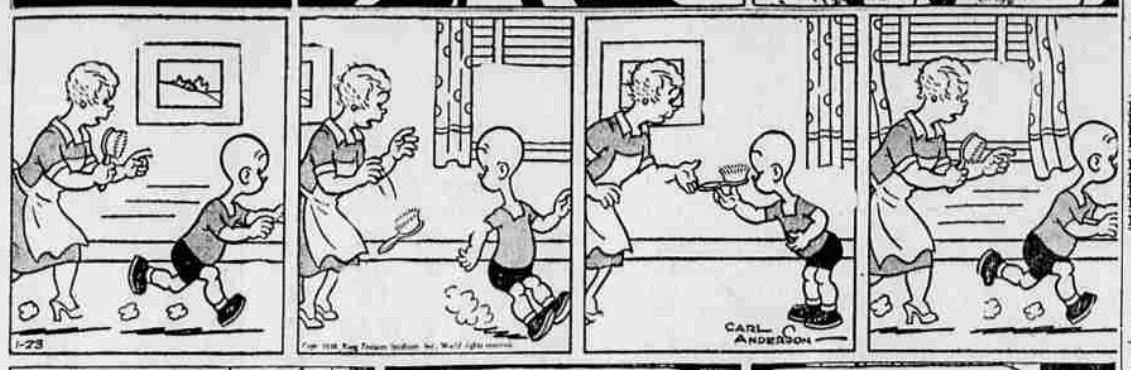
STEVE ROPER



HENRY



ORPHAN ANNIE

LIL ABNER

CASSIDY

MUTT & JEFF

RUSTY RILEY

DONALD DUCK

MARY WORTH

RADIO PROGRAMS

MONDAY—P.M.

	KGW 620 NBC	KOIN 970 CBS	KEX 1190 ABC	KSLM 1390 MBC	KOCO 1490 Kc.
5:00	The 3 of Us	Knox Manning	Challenge of Yukon	B-Bar-B	Swing Time
5:15	News	Little Show	Sky King	B-Bar-B	Swing Time
5:30	Voice of F'stone	News	Sky King	Tom Mix	Bing Crosby
5:45	Voice of F'stone	News	Sky King	Tom Mix	Band of Day
6:00	Boston Symph.	Radio Theater	Edwin C. Hill	Gabriel Heater	Candlelight & Silver
6:15	Boston Symph.	Radio Theater	Home Edition	News	News
6:30	Living 1950	Radio Theater	Mod. Romances	Tells You	Twilight Song
6:45	Living 1950	Radio Theater	Mod. Romances	Serenade	
7:00	Martin & Lewis	My Friend Irma	Lone Ranger	Murder Experts	T B A
7:15	Martin & Lewis	My Friend Irma	Lone Ranger	Murder Experts	Mus. Jackpot
7:30	Dave Garroway	Bob Hawk	Ethel & Albert	Cisco Kid	Evelyn Knight
7:45	Dave Garroway	Bob Hawk	Ethel & Albert	Cisco Kid	Sports
8:00	Sinatra, Kirst.	Lowell Thomas	Kate Smith	Let Geo. Do It	Track 1490
8:15	News	Jack Smith	Kate Smith	Let Geo. Do It	Track 1490
8:30	Railroad Hour	Talent Scouts	H. J. Taylor	The Saint	Track 1490
8:45	Railroad Hour	Talent Scouts	Trio	The Saint	Track 1490
9:00	Telephone Hr.	Inner Sanctum	Speaking Songs	News	Willamette U.
9:15	Telephone Hr.	Inner Sanctum	Speaking Songs	Dave Rose	Willamette U.
9:30	Dance Orch.	Beulah	Ralph Norman	C. of C.	News
9:45	Dance Orch.	Club 18	Ralph Norman	C. of C.	Chief Robie
10:00	Sam Hayes	1-Star Final	Richfield Rep.	Fulton Lewis	Music for America
10:15	Mindy Carson.	You & World	Intermezzo	Mut. Newsreel	Mus. You Want
10:30	Sport Final	Airflo	Concert Hour	News	Mus. You Want
10:45	Orchestra	Cham. Forum	Concert Hour	It's the Tops	
11:00	News	Serenade	Concert Hour	I Love Mystery	Nocturne
11:15	Wax Museum	Treasury Band	Concert Hour	Spivak Orch.	Nocturne
11:30	Wax Museum	Organ Music	Memos	Treas. Varieties	Nocturne
11:45	Wax Museum	Organ Music	Memos	Treas. Varieties	Nocturne
12:00	Sign Off	Sign Off	Xtra Hour	Sign Off	Sign Off

FM Mer., KGW 100.3, 5-10 p.m., KOIN 101.1, 6 a.m., 12 p.m., KEX 92.3, 3 to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY—6 A.M. TO 4:45 P.M.

	KGW 620 NBC	KOIN 970 CBS	KEX 1190 ABC	KSLM 1390 MBC	KOCO 1490 Kc.
6:00	Hodge Podge	News	Farm News	News	
6:15	News	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	Mus. Timek'per	KOCO Klock
6:30	Farm Time	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	March Time	KOCO Klock
6:45	Farm Time	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	News	
7:00	Early Bird	KOIN Klock	News	News	Tex Ritter
7:15	Old Songs	News	Agronsky	Br'kfast Gang	KOCO Klock
7:30	News	CBS News	Bob Hazen	Br'kfast Gang	News
7:45	Sam Hayes	Fred Beck	Zeke Manners	Top Trades	KOCO Klock
8:00	Eddie Albert	Consumer News	Breakfast Club	Barg. Counter	Wildwood Chur.
8:15	Eddie Albert	News	Breakfast Club	Family Alter	Fiesta Time
8:30	Jack Berch	Grand Slam	Breakfast Club	Haven of Rest	Western Melody
8:45	Sara Riders	Rosemary	Breakfast Club	Haven of Rest	Temple Echoes
9:00	Second Cup	Wendy Warren	New.	N W News	Time for Mel'dy
9:15	Second Cup	Aunt Jenny	Today's Stars	Galen Drake	Time for Mel'dy
9:30	Hometowners	Helen Trent	Quick as Flash	Pastor's Call	Stars Sing
9:45	News	Our Gal Sunday	Quick as Flash	Willing	J. Ch. Thomas
10:00	Marriage for 2	Big Sister	Serenade	Glen Hardy	NW News
10:15	Car. Cavallero	Ma Perkins	Galen Drake	Songs of Dev.	Memor. Music
10:30	Brad Reynolds	Dr. Malone	My True Story	Organalites	Tune Time
10:45	Playboys	Guiding Light	My True Story	Russ Morgan	88 Keys
11:00	Double or Noth.	Mrs. Burton	Betty Crocker	Ladies First	Music Mart
11:15	Double or Noth.	Perry Mason	Vic. Lindlahr	Ladies First	Music Mart
11:30	Today's Child.	Norah Drake	N'westerners	Queen for Day	Jan Garber
11:45	Light of World	Brighter Day	N'westerners	Queen for Day	Vocal Varieties
12:00	Kneass News	News	Baukhage	Top Trades	Hollyw'd Music
12:15	Road of Life	Come Get It	News	News	Hollyw'd Music
12:30	Pepper Young	House Party	Jack Norman	Gay 90's	News
12:45	Happiness	House Party	Meet Menjous	Bob Eberly	Dave Dennis
1:00	Backstage Wife	Nora, Newhere	Breakfast in Hollywood	Bob Mitchell	Mac's Melodies
1:15	Stella Dallas	Jack Holt		Bob Mitchell	Mac's Melodies
1:30	Lorenzo Jones	Garry Moore	Kay West	Tell Neighbor	Mac's Melodies
1:45	Widder Brown	Newspaper	Kay West	Bing Sings	Mac's Melodies
2:00	A Girl Marries	Newspaper	Jay Stewart	Bob Poole	Mac's Melodies
2:15	Por. Faces Life	Steve Allen	Jay Stewart	Bob Poole	Mac's Melodies
2:30	Just Plain Bill	Steve Allen	Bride & Groom	Music for	Mac's Melodies
2:45	Frt. P. Farrrell	Tunefully Yours	Walter Kiernan	Tuesday	Mac's Melodies
3:00	Welcome Trav.	News	Club Time	Jamboree	Mac's Melodies
3:15	Welcome Trav.	Arthur Godfrey	Music	Jamboree	Mac's Melodies
3:30	Aunt Mary	Arthur Godfrey	Hannibal Cobb	News	Mac's Melodies
3:45	Love & Learn	Arthur Godfrey	Hannibal Cobb	Kostenanets	Mac's Melodies
4:00	Woman's Secret	Arthur Godfrey	Western Brand	Fulton Lewis	Movie Time
4:15	Life Beautiful	Arthur Godfrey	Squirrel Cage	Hemingway	Philosopher
4:30	Dr. Paul	Curt Massey	Squirrel Cage	Behind Story	B can be Beaut.
4:45	Paula Stone	Edw. Murrow	Firefighters	Carm. Cavallaro	B C'n be Beaut.

DIAL LISTING, KOAC 550

KOAC Monday P.M.—3:00, Children's Theater; 5:15, On the Upbeat; 5:50, 550 Sports Club; 6:00, News; 6:15, Dinner Melodies; 6:30, Music of Czechoslovakia; 7:15, Evening Farm Hour; 8:00, Famous Organ Composers; 8:15, News & Previews; 8:30, Campus Recital; 9, Music That Endures; 9:45, Evening Meditations; 10:00, Sign Off.

KOAC Tuesday A. M.—10:00, News and Weather; 10:15, Especially for Women; 11:00, School of Air; 11:15, Concert Hall; 12:00, News; 12:15, Noon Far. Hour; 1:00, Ride 'em Cowboy; 1:15, School of Air; 1:30, Melody Lane; 2:00, World Our Affair; 2:30, Memory Book of Music; 2:45, School of Air; 3:00, News; 3:15, Music of the Masters.

North Howell Econ Committees Chosen

North Howell—Home Economic club meeting was called to order by Eunice Beals, retiring chairman, after Daisy Bump was installed by Florence Espe and took the chair.

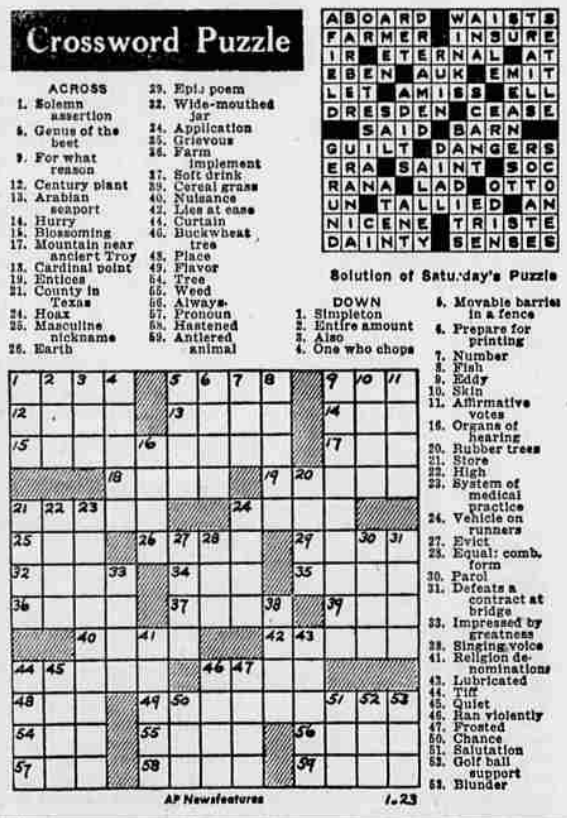
She appointed besides the responsibility and birthday committee, hospitality, Jessie Coomler and Hazel Strachan; membership, Amy Beer; community service, Gretchen Jackson; cheer, Eunice Beals. A 1950 year book was given to each member.

Bertha Dunn, Florence Oddie demonstrated patching overalls, project of the meeting was mending. Eunice Beals and Minnie Napier were hostesses. Amy Beer and Florence Espe will be hostesses at the February 6 Grange meeting.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Solemn assertion
6. Genus of the beet
9. For what reason
12. Century plant
13. Arabian seaport
14. Hurry
15. Blossoming
17. Mountain near ancient Troy
18. Cardinal point
19. Entices
21. County in Texas
24. Hoax
25. Masculine nickname
26. Earth
29. Epic poem
32. Wide-mouthed jar
34. Application
35. Grievous
36. Farm implement
37. Soft drink
38. Cereal grass
40. Nuisance
42. Lies at ease
44. Curtain
46. Buckwheat tree
48. Place
49. Flavor
54. Tree
55. Weed
56. Always
57. Pronoun
58. Hastened
59. Antlered animal

DOWN
1. Simpleton
2. Entire amount
3. Also
4. One who chops
5. Movable barrier in a fence
6. Prepare for printing
7. Number
8. Fish
9. Eddy
10. Skin
11. Affirmative votes
16. Organs of hearing
20. Rubber trees
21. Store
22. High
23. System of medical practice
24. Vehicle on runners
27. Evict
28. Equal: comb. form
30. Parol
31. Defeats a contract at bridge
33. Impressed by greatness
38. Singing voice
41. Religion denominations
43. Lubricated
44. Tiff
45. Quiet
46. Ran violently
47. Frosted
50. Chance
51. Salutation
53. Golf ball support
54. Blunder



Solution of Saturday's Puzzle

AP Newsfeatures 1-23

ROOM AND BOARD . . . . By Gene Ahern