

It's Death, My Darling!

By AMELIA REYNOLDS LONG

(AP Newsfeature)

Chapter 28
For the next minute or so we all just sat or stood there, too stunned to do anything except stare at Beau. Finally Cousin Jeff broke the silence that had begun to press down upon us so heavily that it fairly hurt.

"Beau, you don't know what you're talking about!" he exclaimed more loudly than I had ever heard him speak before. "Where did you get such a ridiculous idea?"

"Oh, I!" Beau repeated. "I didn't need to get it anywhere. It's been starting in the face from the very beginning. Look at the crazy directions Grandpere left for his funeral. Look at what Lee was—an unbalanced neurotic, ready to go to pieces at the least emotional strain. And look at Aunt Delphine! You're forgetting I'm only a member of the family by marriage, and has no blood relationship to any of us."

Beau was unimpressed.
"I'll admit you're right about Aunt Delphine," he acknowledged. "But listen to this if you want proof that Grandpere was going insane—and before he died, he went in to New Orleans to consult a psychiatrist."

"How do you know that?" Amedee demanded.

"Yesterday after Claude's funeral," he began, "I was making a tour of the hospital in the hope of finding some trace of Father. But I didn't do that. Instead, I went to see Simon Duval, I knew Father had suspected there was something queer about Grandpere's death, and I thought he might have gone to consult Duval about it."

"I drew a blank there, of course," but I found out something else. About two weeks ago, Grandpere appeared unexpectedly at Duval's office. At first he wouldn't come to the point where he was, but finally he admitted that he'd come in to town to consult a psychiatrist, and he asked Duval whether he knew of a reputable man he could recommend."

"Duval gave me the name of the man he suggested to Grandpere—a Dr. Brennaman—and I went around to see him myself."

He paused to shift his position, then he continued. "I was going to Grandpere had been there, all right. Dr. Brennaman said Grandpere had told him that he had been led to believe he was suffering from auditory hallucinations, and he wanted to know whether the doctor could find any sign of mental derangement that would account for this."

"The doctor put him through the usual preliminary tests that he gives to all new patients; but aside from a rather pronounced nervous tension, he could find nothing wrong with Grandpere. So he suggested that he come in once a week for the next month or so for observation."

"But why do that if there was nothing wrong with him?" Henri wanted to know.

"I asked Brennaman that same question myself," Beau said. "His voice had become bitter again. 'At first he avoided giving me a direct answer,' but finally he admitted that while it's not impossible to diagnose a psychiatric patient thoroughly upon a single examination, in his opinion, Grandpere was suffering from an illness of persecution, which might have accounted for the auditory hallucinations. He wouldn't say more than that, but I knew what he meant."

"Hold on, Beau," Lewis Hays put in. "You're jumping to conclusions. After all, your grandfather was an old man over a hundred. It wouldn't have been unusual if—"

"But Beau interrupted him with a short, hollow laugh.

"You know as well as I do, Lewis," he said, "how ridiculous it would be to try to associate the idea of ordinary senile dementia

with a man like Grandpere. I appreciate your efforts to find a way out for us, but it can't be done. We've got to face the facts, whether we like them or not."

For the third time he paused. Then he concluded with a rush.

"You see, I asked Dr. Brennaman to let me look at the card he'd made out for Grandpere's case history; and although he didn't want to loan it at first, he finally let me have it. In spite of what he'd said about its being impossible to diagnose a patient after a single examination, he'd written one word there. Oh, he had a question mark behind it, I'll admit; but that was only professional caution. The word was 'paranoia.'"

"Paranoia! The least curable, most dangerous form of insanity!" I gasped and suddenly Bobby put her hands up over her face with the gesture of a child that is about to burst into tears.

"I don't believe it!" she cried. "I don't believe it! It—it isn't fair!"

"Don't, Bobby," Henri said. He slipped an arm about her, and led her from the room.

One by one the others began to withdraw, although no one was very anxious for anyone else's society just then. At last only Amedee and I remained. I saw him glance at me, then look quickly away again. I knew what was coming.

(To Be Continued)

Four Corners

Four Corners — W. R. Gould reached his four score years on March 3 with every indication that he will add the proverbial 10 to the 80.

He and Mrs. Gould, who celebrated her 75th birthday anniversary in February, were surprised on Tuesday evening when their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Hardt and Mr. and Mrs. Rex Smith of Lebanon arrived with a birthday cake.

Neighbors joining in the surprise party were Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Loveland and Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Brown.

The Goulds are long time residents of Oregon and Salem vicinity.

Mr. Gould, a native Missourian, arrived in Portland in 1888. There he married Miss Jean Stewart, formerly of Glasgow, Scotland.

He came to Salem in 1921 where he was employed by the former Gov. I. L. Patterson. The Goulds moved to Four Corners in 1938.

He is a retired Fire Chief of the Four Corners Volunteer Fire Department and an honorary member.

Another daughter and son-in-law of the Goulds, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cochran of Coulee Dam, Wash., unable to get here for the surprise party, arrived Wednesday for a week's visit with their parents. The Goulds are active in local church work and community affairs.

The Lincoln school Mother's club will meet Friday at 1:15 p.m. in the school auditorium. Hostesses will be the room mothers from Miss Joan Aitken's second grade.

A supervised teen age dance will be held in the Four Corners Community hall Saturday, March 7 from 8 to 11 p.m. All young people 12 to 15 years of age are invited.

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BY CARL ANDERSON



Dulles Retires Carter Vincent

Washington (AP) — Secretary of State Dulles Wednesday retired diplomat John Carter Vincent, a storm center of loyalty investigations, effective March 31.

Dulles in effect cleared Vincent of any "reasonable doubt" as to his loyalty, reversing a decision of the government's loyalty review board in the Truman administration.

But the secretary of state concluded that Vincent's handling of United States policy in the Far East during and immediately after World War II shows "a failure to meet the standard" demanded of an experienced foreign service officer.

Vincent's retirement pay, as a career diplomat of his many years of service, will be about \$9,000 a year.

Vincent, 52, has been U.S. representative in Tangier with the rank of minister.

Sunnyside

Sunnyside — Mr. and Mrs. John Neuschwander were hosts to the Friendly Hour club annual "Husbands night," dinner and party. A buffet dinner was served and the guests were entertained with an auction sale.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Neuschwander, Mr. and Mrs. Cronshaw and family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and son, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Langford

Woodburn Names Maricle Fire Chief

Woodburn — Floyd Maricle, who has been assistant fire chief of Woodburn for five years, was named by the city council Tuesday night as the new fire chief. He will fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Joe Sowa, which became effective March 1.

Stayton

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Inglis have been confined to their home for several days with the flu.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Japanese sash
- Rebuff
- Labor for breath
- Batter
- Molten rock
- Medicinal herb
- Felon
- Part played
- Domestic
- Pantry
- Quench
- Mathematical ratio
- Short letter
- Splashes
- Soft drink
- Declare
- Regret
- Care of the feet
- Confined
- Fixed charge
- Small tumor
- College officer
- Choosing
- Gaelic
- Fume
- Pen point

DOWN

- Dragon
- Tribunal
- Mimicked
- Viscous mud
- Narrow road
- Topaz hummingbird
- Soften
- Attic
- Land held in absolute independence
- Only
- Nobleman
- Manufacture
- Poker stake
- Crisp cake
- Ore deposit
- Extra part
- Stammers
- Building
- Dwarf
- Collections
- Cavities
- Pressed
- Saucy
- Bag
- First garden
- Dry
- Container
- Cry
- Pasture
- By way of
- Flow back
- Require
- Weakens
- Idle talk

Worst Sew Row

ARE CA EVIL AGE
GAPED RATTLED
ELAN TED IDES
REMANENT
AFT OLE ALTER
POETIC AVERSE
TREES SIA VIE
STIMULUS
THAT SEM STIR
REVEALER CAINE
ORE ERG AGNES
FOR TIE BEGET

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

1. Dragon
2. Tribunal
3. Mimicked
4. Viscous mud
5. Narrow road
6. Topaz hummingbird
7. Soften
8. Attic
9. Land held in absolute independence
10. Only
11. Nobleman
12. Manufacture
13. Poker stake
14. Crisp cake
15. Ore deposit
16. Extra part
17. Stammers
18. Building
19. Dwarf
20. Collections
21. Cavities
22. Pressed
23. Saucy
24. Bag
25. First garden
26. Dry
27. Container
28. Cry
29. Pasture
30. By way of
31. Flow back
32. Require
33. Weakens
34. Idle talk

ROOM & BOARD

By Gene Ahern

