

The Voice of Love

By WILLIAM NEUBAUER

(AP Newsfeatures)

CHAPTER 23

Great was the excitement around the old hotel. Almost with the first speech the guests split into two camps. There were those who felt that Ephraim Carlsie would make a good mayor for the simple reason that he was a good hotel manager. On the other hand, there were those who had been greatly impressed by Langley and Dan Curtis. As Miss Plunkett summed up their feelings in her bugle-like tones: They're rich men. They don't have to grub for a living. Therefore the hospital will be properly run at a cost all can afford to pay.

Yet Captain Johnny Lord had a different view of that when he called Saturday evening to take Ruth to the mass meeting. "It's a trick," he said. "You're a fellow who could be going back to New York in the fall. I don't know how much his uncle makes, but if Dan Curtis is his agent he might get at least ten per cent of those earnings. So why does he want to stay here? He won't ever make the money here that he can make in radio."

"Perhaps he's a doctor who wants to be a doctor?"

"Bob washed up, Ruth?"

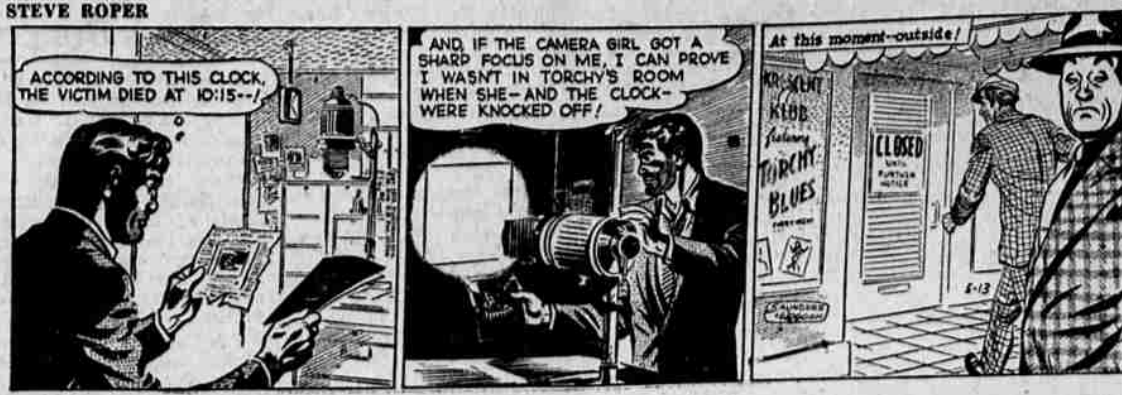
She wished Johnny would stop looking at her that way. She wasn't a monster! She hadn't betrayed anyone! She'd never given Bob reason to hope she'd marry him!

"I never loved him, Johnny. I like him very much. But beyond that—"

"To her relief, they reached the park. But she discovered an unusual thing as she glanced around the crowd. Most of the people there were merchants and their families, farmers and white-collar workers. The fishermen were conspicuous by their absence, as were the farmers' hired hands, and the lower paid people who worked in the various stores. A chill went through her. See what harm Dan had done already! By his appeal to lower emotions he'd divided the town on class lines. With practically one stroke of his pen he'd clouded the issue. Now the hospital was unimportant to the people. A deadly insult had been given, and now anger would fight, not reason. She shivered. "Johnny, this is terrible!"

He nodded. As they found seats down front in the fire-department band played a fanfare and up jumped Mayor Luigi Luchetti to the platform. The first shot of the campaign was to be answered. "My fine friends," he boomed genially, "she's a pleasure for to see you again. Me, I don't talk the English so good, but the heart, she's in the right place. You vote for me, you no vote for me, she's all the same to me. Mayor Luchetti, she's love all of you to night."

"She's love you too much," he boomed on. "For to see the taxes go up, Me, I work for the living, too. You, you work for the living, same as me. But do get ahead? Hah, see what the food costs! See



RADIO PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY--P. M.					
KGW	KOIN	KEX	KSLM	KGAE	KOCO
630 AM	970 CDB	1190 ABC	1390 MEB	1425 Ks	1890 Lns
8:00 Noon News	8:00 News	8:00 Paul Harvey	8:00 Top Trades	8:00 Spider	8:00 News
8:15 Pop. Young	8:15 News	8:15 Noon Edition	8:15 News	8:15 Spider	8:15 News
8:30 Happiness	8:30 News	8:30 Jack Owens	8:30 News	8:30 Spider	8:30 News
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