

# To Kiss, or Kill

By DAY KEENE

(AP Wirephotos)

**CHAPTER 4**  
Inspector Carlton's face was cold. With the exception of State's Attorney Gilmore, Mandell didn't recognize any of the other men in the office. He indicated a chair "Sit down, Mandell."

Mandell sat in the chair. All the men in the office looked tired, Inspector Carlton and the State's attorney looked angry. No one spoke for a moment. Then a white-haired man laid down the cigar he was smoking and stood in front of Mandell.

"How do you intend to plead, Mandell? Guilty or not guilty?"

"This is a court," Mandell asked. "I'm being tried at five o'clock in the morning."

The red-haired man said, "Let's call it an informal hearing, Barney. And don't worry about your rights. They're being well protected."

"Who are you?"

"My name is Curtis."

"The man who called my hotel and left word that he'd call back?"

"That's right."

His hands still clasped behind his back, Appellate Court Judge Hiram Clay rocked heel and toe. "Let's put it this way, Mandell. If this were a criminal court and I were the presiding judge, how would you plead, Mandell, you or didn't you kill Cherry Marvin?"

"How many times do I have to tell you gentlemen? I don't know."

"How about the man you claim was waiting in your room when you got back to your hotel last evening?"

"What do you mean, how about him?"

"Was there actually such a man?"

Mandell bobbed his head. "Yeah. He struck me up for six hundred bucks. And the reason I didn't report it was because I didn't want any reporters coming to the hotel before I found out how I stood with my wife?"

"Attorney John Ebbeling's daughter?"

"Yes, sir."

Mandell watched the white-haired man walk back to the desk and pick up his cigar.

"Well, Curtis needed."

Judge Clay relit his cigar. "I am inclined," he said between puffs, "to believe Mandell is telling the truth, in so far as he knows it. How about you, Joe?"

The state's attorney said dubiously, "It could be. It's a problem, gentlemen." He looked at Curtis. "I suppose we'll have to go along. But the newspapers are going to eat our heads off for admitting an alleged insane killer to bail."

Mandell sat very still in the oppressive silence that followed. He wished he knew what it was all about. There was too much brass in the room to suit him. He felt suddenly very small and very futile.

In front of the Detective Bureau, Curtis led the way to a gray Buick. "Get in," he said, and walked around to the other door.

Mandell got into the car. "Who hired you to spring me? Mr. Ebbeling?"

Curtis pushed the starter. "No."

Mandell rode, working on the knot of his tie. He was glad Rosemary had brought him clean linen and a clean suit. Gale was undoubtedly at the hotel by now. He hoped his talk with Mr. Curtis wouldn't take too long.

"It was nice of you to get me out."

Curtis smiled. "Perhaps I had an ulterior motive."

Mandell wished he knew what ulterior meant. He offered, "My father-in-law is an attorney, too. He's a patent lawyer."

"Yes," Curtis said. "I know."

"Turning north again, he parked the Buick in front of a building on Wells Street and got out. Mandell followed him into the building. There was a bank of elevators but no night operator. Curtis pushed open a fire door and began to climb the stairs. They climbed to the fifth floor. Then Curtis pushed the heavy fire door open and walked down a hall and unlocked a front office door with no keypad on the glass but clean. The only furnishings were a desk, two chairs, and a big steel filing cabinet.

Curtis closed the door. "You know, I ought to get more money. I had a time springing you. He had a nice grin. Mandell liked it. Kind of wondering what it's all about, eh, Barney?"

"That's for sure," Mandell admitted. "How much was my bail?"

"It was plenty."

"Who put up the money? Gale?"

Curtis sat in the chair behind the desk and put his heels up on the wood. "You aren't even warm."

"Who, then?"

"For the time being, let's just say it was someone who is rather interested in you. Someone with a lot of weight."

Mandell half rose from his chair. "Not the guy who killed the bionde?"

Curtis lit a cigarette and tossed the package across the desk. "No. That's still Inspector Carlton's baby."

Mandell sat back in his chair. "Know something?"

"What?"

"I don't think I killed her." Curtis blew out the match with which he had lit the cigarette. "I'm inclined to doubt it, myself. Very much. And in setting the time of death at four o'clock, the coroner's office eased the pressure on both of us considerably. He changed the subject abruptly. "What was your father's name before he announced it, Barney?"

(To Be Continued)

The mutineers from the Bounty, British exploration ship, settled in Pitcairn Island in 1789, but their descendants were transferred to Norfolk Island, 400 miles northeast of New Zealand, in 1856, and only about 40 of them ever returned to Pitcairn.

## Carol Curtis Pattern



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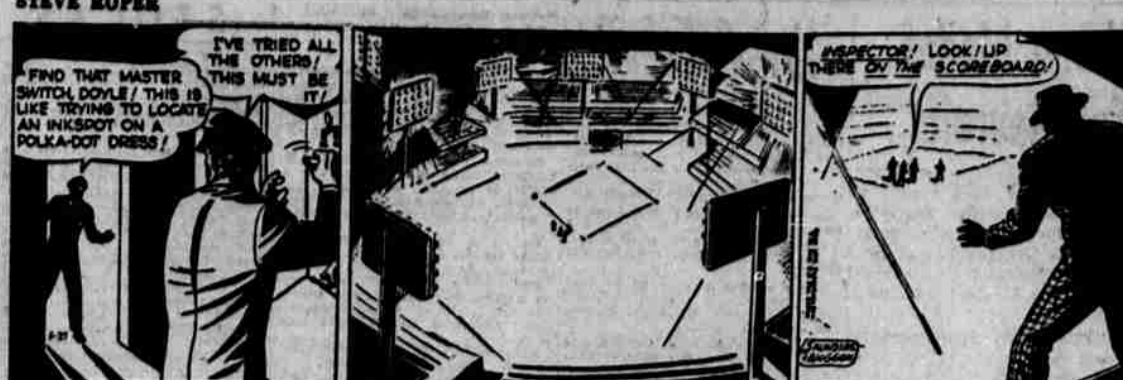
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# RADIO PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY—P. M.

Time	KGW	KOIN	KEX	KSLM	KGAE	KOCO
5:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
5:15	Pop. Young	Pop. Young	Pop. Young	Pop. Young	Pop. Young	Pop. Young
5:30	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music
5:45	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:45	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:45	News	News	News	News	News	News
8:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
8:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
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9:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
9:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
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11:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
11:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
11:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
11:45	News	News	News	News	News	News
12:00	News	News	News	News	News	News

## THURSDAY—6 A.M. TO 11:45 A.M.

Time	KGW	KOIN	KEX	KSLM	KGAE	KOCO
6:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
6:45	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:00	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:15	News	News	News	News	News	News
7:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
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11:30	News	News	News	News	News	News
11:45	News	News	News	News	News	News

## DIAL LISTING KOAC 530

KOAC Wednesday 5:30-6:00, Children's Theater; 6:30, Chicago Roundtable; 8:45, News, Weather; 9:00, Music; 9:45, Meditations; 10:00, Size of Art; 11:00, Bookshelf; 11:30, Per Women; 12:00, Incanting, Musicians.

## Finish Flights Over North Pole

Washington (AP)—Secretary Benson assured Congress Monday he would consult with both republicans and democrats before any major changes in organization of the Agriculture Department.

This assurance was given at a hearing on President Eisenhower's reorganization plan for the Agriculture Department, before the House Committee on Government Operations.

Before the committee is a resolution proposing disapproval of the plan. The secretary said, he was not yet prepared to outline changes he would make if the reorganization plan is allowed to go into effect.

Earlier in the day, after a White House conference, senate leaders announced they would call the plan up for action Wednesday. Action would come on a resolution to kill the proposal.

## Early American operators of brine wells often suffered severe losses when petroleum seepages got into their wells and ruined the brine.

## Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

- Append
- Ventilated
- Diamond cutter's cup
- Book of names and addresses
- Salt
- Call forth
- Garment
- Metre
- Compass point
- By
- Immerse
- Land
- Measure
- Declare
- Conspire
- Exit
- Frightened
- Feminine name
- Turn aside
- Tributary
- Summer
- French
- Line to fasten a sail
- Artificial language
- Unit of force
- Bit
- Header vetch
- Football position
- Congelated water
- Across the ocean
- Wide
- Mouthed
- Poison
- Teutonic odds of healing
- Weave together
- Action at law
- Expert
- Article
- DOWN
- Have debts
- Author
- Difference
- Hum
- Playing card
- Pronoun
- List
- Eagle
- Pauses
- Spotted
- Have debts
- Place out
- Disease of chickens
- Incarcation
- Helped
- 160 square rods
- Remove impurities
- Mis by attempting too much
- Edible tubers
- Symbol for selenium
- Mark of a blow
- Thin coatings
- For example: abbr.
- Pertain
- Blunder
- Spelnder
- Continent
- Sick
- Above: contr.
- Contend
- Finish
- Worthless fragment
- Perceive
- Epistle: abbr.

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

AP Wirephotos