Murder at High Tide

By CHARLES G. BOOTH

SYNOPSIS: Dan Parados, fear-inspiring despot of his isolated estate on San Lucas island, seems hated by his whole household. His secretary, pretty Celia Ferris is terror-stricken in his presence. Claude Annersley, Celia's sweetheart, displays strange agitation. Parados sneeringly dominates Miss Jahries, the housekeeper. Into this atmosphere of sinister dread comes Allan Hunt, pottery and rare dealer, to appraise Parados' art collection. The ominous thundering of The Gut, a nearby fissure of water, disturbs Hunt as much as the queer behavior he finds at every turn. Noting that a certain glass case is empty, Parados himself seems overcome by a ghastly terror. Sending the mystified Hunt to his room, Parados enters his library, saying he won't be at dinner that night.

CHAPTER 2

THE KNIFE OF MADEMOISELLE

IT was a peasant room into which the housekeeper took me. Windows looked south and west. The south window, of the French type, was open, and gave access to a flat roof. The library was underneath, I thought.

"Life must be pleasant on San Lucas, Miss Jahries," I remarked.

"Do you think so?" Miss Jahries answered. "We have dinner at eight, Mr. Hunt."

While I dressed I pondered over the curious human behavior I had noticed since I had entered the house.

I wondered if there was a connection between Parados' attitude towards Celia and Annersley's unexpected appearance, and Parados' panic when he looked at the glass case and his abominable treatment of Miss Jahries. If there was, might not those incidents tie up with that sense of "wrongness" I had felt on the island?

Seven o'clock found me with an hour on my hands. I ought to have gone downstairs, but I stepped to the window.

The roof, an oblong open on two sides, along which a low parapet ran, looked south and west. On the west side a stair descended to the cliff.

I had a pretty good idea of my surroundings. The cove indented the southwest corner. Parados had built his home on the north side of the cove; the ruin of the fort Velasquez had built was on the south side. A light indicated the location of the fort tower. Evidently it was occupied. By whom?

The cove was a hundred yards or so wide; the light was perhaps twice that distance from where I stood. Unless The Gut was bridged—and I had seen no bridge—it would be necessary to walk around the head of The Gut, a considerable distance, to get from the house to the fort.

I began to dig up what I knew of the island's history. The original estate had been granted to the father of Don Ramon by the King of Spain about 1810. San Lucas Island had been thrown in with it.

The Velasquezs prospered until the Americans began to blow over the horizon. Don Ramon built the fort on San Lucas as a protest against the Yankee invasion.

When California joined the Union, Don Ramon withdrew to San Lucas Island and lived in the fort until his death. His grandson died without heir in the nineties. Meanwhile, the mainland estate had been lost. The island was sold for debt and Parados bought it cheap around 1912.

I happened to glance at the cliffs below. There had been no one there a moment before. I was sure of that. As a figure moved in front of what I supposed was the west window of the library, I saw it was a girl. She drew closer to the window and peered in.

"I wonder what she's after?" I muttered. I had a notion she did not belong to the house.

Parados had told me the Brent collection was in the room beyond the library. Suddenly, the girl vanished.

I ran down the stair, passed the library window, the shades of which were drawn, and came to the second window. The shades were drawn, but not together.

I did not see the girl. The Brent pottery was spread on a billiard table in the center of the library. I touched one door of the window. It opened noiselessly. The girl appeared in the center of the room.

She was holding one of the oils, looking at it intently. The subject was the head and shoulders of an old lady with red-apple cheeks and a white collar and an indomitable air that made you look twice at her.

As I looked at the girl again I made a discovery. She had a lovely mouth and deep blue eyes and bronze hair beneath her small black hat. And as I looked at the old lady again I knew where she had got her features.

The girl suddenly raised a leather bag, took out a small knife and plunged it through the canvas of the portrait, close to the frame. I burst into the room.

"You mustn't do that!" I shouted. "That isn't your property."

She cried out and would have dropped the picture if I had not caught it.

A second of silence hung between us. I felt sick about it. She had taken hold of me in a way I could not explain.

"Where did you come from?" I inquired.

"Where did you come from?" she countered defiantly.

"You don't belong to the house, do you?"

"Do you?"

"You must have wanted it pretty badly," I said encouragingly.

Her eyes filled with tears.

"Did you ever want anything very much?"

"Perhaps I shall one of these days."

A man cannot always stop the indiscretions that bubble up when a pretty girl puts him off his guard. I thought she would be angry; instead, she smiled.

"I suppose you think I'm a thief!"

"As a rule," I said, "a thief does not steal his grandmother's portrait."

"You think I am like her?" she demanded radiantly.

"Let me see," I said critically. "Yes, there is a decided resemblance. The eyes are the same. Your nose turns up a trifle more, but your mouths are identical—and all that mouths should be—"

"Oh, please!" she protested laughing.

"But of course they are!" I insisted. "And that indomitable look."

"I admit the look. My stubbornness made me do it."

"And now," I said gently, "you will tell me why you did it."

A door closed softly. I had not heard it open.

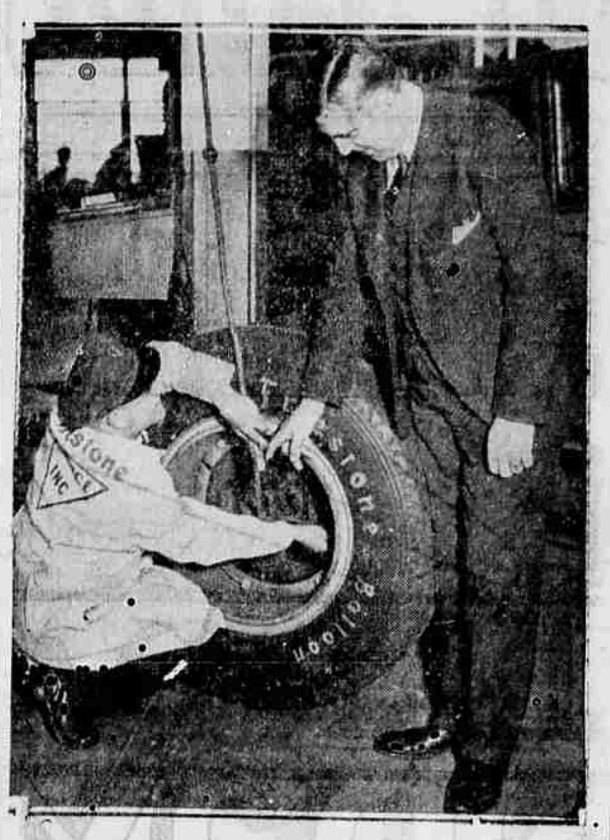
"Précisément!" a soprano voice said. "Mademoiselle is swift with her knife. She has much to tell us."

(Copyright, 1930, William Morrow and Company)

A beautiful girl plunged a knife into the canvas.

Who is this girl crowned? Her surprising identity—and her unusual mission—are revealed tomorrow.

Correct Air Pressure Necessary



"Correct air pressure is one of the most important things to the long life of any automobile tire," says Harry Tompkins, manager of the truck and bus tire department of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of California, as he demonstrates his statement to one of the attendants of Older Tire Service, Firestone dealers here. Mr. Tompkins recently visited Mr. Freeman of the local company, on an inspection tour of the entire Pacific coast.

County Health Department

Activities and News

By Dr. B. C. Wilson, Health Officer

THE HOUSE FLY

The housefly breeds very rapidly. The female lays 120 eggs in one batch and this may occur from two to four times daily.

Ever stop to think where these flies come from? How about those you saw at the breakfast table this morning? Nice flies, weren't they? Seemed friendly, too, didn't they, and willing to dine with? Yes, every last one of them hatched fresh in some stable, pig pen, horse manure pile or open privy within the last 10 days or two weeks.

The female fly laid a hatching of 120 fresh eggs in the manure pile a couple of weeks ago. They all hatched into tiny, wiggly, white maggots before night. These little maggots squirmed in the wet manure for four or five days, got fat and grew a shell. Once in a shell these little maggots start to growing wings and legs and everything else that goes to make up first-class flies. Their slimy, wet bodies make it easy for them to crawl outside of the manure pile, where they dry their wings, take their first breakfast, and then make a bee-line (or fly-line) for your kitchen and dining room.

Those were the very identical flies you saw at your breakfast table. Flies are prize boarders. They like their meals not over 15 minutes apart, if they can get them that often. A hungry fly can eat half its weight in food at a single meal.

Its digestive apparatus is so simple that germs pass directly through its body unchanged. Flies feed on the sputum of the tuberculous and the excreta of the typhoid cases and pass live germs of the disease shortly afterward. Furthermore, a well-fed fly makes specks at a rate of 50 per day, this being the principal way flies carry germs of disease to our food. The milk jug and the freshly baked loaf of bread are as inviting to his appetite as the dead carcass of an animal or the bed pan of the typhoid patient.

The Problem

1. A pair of flies beginning May 1 are capable of producing 5,746,610,500 flies by July 30.

2. There are 21 diseases borne by the fly.

3. The fly is one of the great problems in man's war against disease and death.

4. Food that has been touched by a fly should not be eaten.

5. Flies go to filthy places to eat as freely as to clean.

6. If you see a fly, you can be certain his breeding place is not far away.

The Remedy

1. Destruction of the breeding places is the best way to control flies.

2. In stables where manure cannot be removed the larvae should be destroyed by the free use of 10 ounces of borax and 12 ounces of calcium colemanite to each 10 cubic feet (8 bushels) of manure immediately after its removal from the stall. Borax should be dusted upon the floor and crevices after the manure has been removed.

3. Fly traps are helpful.

4. Clean premises, clean houses and destruction of breeding places are the keynotes to fly control.

Paint Sale Success Beyond Expectations Says Big Pines

Due to the advertising campaign in The Mail Tribune back of the Pabco paint sale at the Big Pines Lumber Co., Mr. Thierolf stated today that the sale had gone far beyond his expectations, as any number of items were completely sold out the opening day and the stock had to be replenished from Portland the following day. The sale will continue until Saturday, May 10.

The display room and yard building of the company are fast nearing completion and it is Mr. Thierolf's desire to present one of the most up-to-date lumber yards to this country, that can be found on the Pacific coast.

CENTRAL POINT SCHOOL HEALTH DAY PROGRAM

CENTRAL POINT, Ore., May 2.—(Spl.)—Health day was observed at our school on May 1 by a special program, given in the afternoon in the high school auditorium. Tumbling acts by the seventh and eighth grade girls, selections by the grade-school harmonica band, songs by the lower grades and a health play given by the sixth grade were included in the program.

Certainteed Means a Quality Product

This is the season for erecting new homes and repairing others and attention is called to the ad of Certainteed Universal Shingles for sale by the Porter Lumber Co.

They are advertised as "fire-resisting, beautiful shingles" and the ad in this issue urges people to "roof their home against fire."

The name Certainteed is recognized everywhere as a product of quality.

Australia is starting a campaign to induce American tourists to visit that country.

JOBE PANKEY PLANS CENTRAL POINT VISIT

CENTRAL POINT, Ore., May 2—(Special)—Mrs. Guy Tex. O. Pankey of Central Point and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Grieve of Prospect left Sunday evening for Roseburg where they visited Jobe Pankey who was ill. They returned on Tuesday, leaving Mr. Pankey much improved in health and planning a trip to Central Point for Decoration Day and to visit his daughter, Mrs. Joe Wright.

Co-operative credit societies in Japan now have more than 4,200,000 members.

SAMS VALLEY PEAR PROSPECTS BRIGHT

SAMS VALLEY, Ore., May 2.—(Special)—Wednesday morning brought us a little frost, as well as a decided drop in temperature. Although nearby districts smudged, the temperature did not necessitate such procedure here. If the present weather continues there will be a large crop of pears in this district for fall harvest.

While rice growers in Java are suffering because of insufficient rains this season, those in irrigated districts are prospering.

'HELLO THERE' AT ARMORY TONIGHT SURE TO PLEASE

The stage of the Medford armory has been transformed into a beautiful garden and the auditorium rewired for the presentation of "Hello There" to be given this evening under the auspices of the Greater Medford club. The public will not recognize the place, is the announcement going about the city, and will be pleasantly surprised at the improvement in acoustics accomplished through the re-wiring.

The dress rehearsal of the musical comedy held last night went off well with all indications of jolly entertainment for tonight.

Mrs. Stella Anderson will act as pianist for the numerous dance features included in the show. The cast of 150 children and adults have mastered their lines and dances and the production is expected to go off in smooth fashion under the direction of Miss Rosella Zura.

Leading among the colorful surprises which will greet the public are the Japanese Sunshine, Kewpie Doll and Baby Doll choruses. They will vie for honors with the college boys and girls, valentines, widows and bachelors and military cadets.

Members of the major cast are Laura Drury, Richard Applegate, Mr. Hardisty, Eleanor Curry, Mrs. Newcomb, Joe Hillis, Nathan Newcomb, Mrs. Maud Harris, Roland Humphreys, Mrs. Rose Schieffelin, Mrs. Dynan, Victor Dallaire, Hugh Van Loan and Maurine McClure.

RADIO STATIONS KILL FRUIT BUGS

WASHINGTON—(AP) Licenses to operate two low-powered stations "for the extermination of insects" have been granted by the federal radio commission to a spray concern of Wenatchee, Wash.

The licenses are for a three-month period and call for operation from 3 a. m. to 6 p. m.

The concern, which was granted licenses for experimental purposes about a year ago, in its petition for renewal claimed not only the killing of insects by radio, but the stimulation of plant growth termed "marvelous." The system used was not described.

The application was opposed by federal radio engineers who expressed doubt as to the value of radio in this particular field. They also held that the type of transmitter caused interference.

WILLOW SPRINGS CLUB TO MEET MAY EIGHTH

WILLOW SPRINGS, Ore., May 2.—(Special)—Willow Springs Thursday club will meet on May 8 with Mrs. Sam Anderson at her home on the Pacific highway. Mrs. Hover and Mrs. Reames have charge of the program. Officers for the coming year are to be chosen at this time and dues paid.

Let every member try to be present as there will be but one more meeting before the summer vacation.

BELLVIEW DELEGATES ATTEND FEDERATION

BELLVIEW, Ore., May 2.—(Special)—Delegates from the Upper Valley Community club who attended the district Federation of Women's Clubs at Grants Pass were Mrs. Wade Wallace, Mrs. C. H. Lambkin, Maud Forhan, Belle Jackson, Mrs. Honor Moore, Mrs. Newhouse and Mrs. A. Tepper.

Mrs. Wallace was selected third vice-president of the organization for the coming year.

Classified advertising gets results.

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Spark Plug and Ignition Tester ~ with Every Set of 4 or More CHAMPION Spark Plugs —during CHAMPION National Change Week

This Offer ends Saturday, May 10th

Give Your Car "Champion" Spark Plug Assistance

Save at "Western Auto's" Special Low Price of 67¢ each in sets of four or more . . . and also, during Champion National Change Week, ending Saturday, May 10th . . . get your Spark Plug and Ignition Tester FREE!

The FIRST 10,000 MILES Are The Hottest

. . . . after that, especially with modern high-speed motors, spark plugs lose their "pep." Replace your old, heat-weakened plugs with new Sillimanite-Insulated Champions today. Your reward will be new ZIP . . . smoother engine operation . . . less gas consumption . . . reduced crank-case dilution . . . and better all-around satisfaction from your motor.

Where CHAMPIONS are Used Champions are Made

Winners of most important airplane, automobile and marine events use CHAMPION Spark Plugs because they know that exclusive Champion features assure longer life and greater satisfaction under any and all conditions. Outstanding Performance in exceptionally difficult service proves Champion superiority for everyday service in your car.

Single plugs, 75c each, For Model "T" Ford, 55c

Paranite Ignition Cables Increase Motor Efficency Too

Often, supposed spark plug or battery trouble is traced directly to old, heat-cracked, power-leaking ignition cables. Paranite cables are heat, oil and moisture proof. They have thick rubber insulation, are sheathed in high-quality braid, and are heavily coated with the finest flexible lacquer. Each set is complete with terminals, rubber caps for distributor top connections, and full instructions for quick and easy installation.

According to car . . . per set . . . 98c to $3.85

FREE Tester *with set of Plugs* locates instantly defective plugs or ignition cables. Bright light means they are O. K. . . weak light, flicker or no light—time to change.

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Cor. Main & Riverside

SPARK PLUGS *Installed FREE*

Drive to your nearest "Western Auto" store NOW, and let us put in new Champion Spark Plugs. Quick, prompt service, and no charge for installation.

City Meat Market

THE OPEN FRONT MARKET

Bargains on Smoked Meats

Bacon Backs — Per pound 21c

Bacon Squares Per pound 18c

Medium Weight Bacon, per pound 27c

Lard — Per pound 15c

Other Meat Items for Saturday

Veal Roast per pound 20c

Pork Roasts per pound 25c

Baby Beef Roasts per pound 20c

CHICKENS — RABBITS — FRYERS

CITY MEAT MARKET

N. Central Phone 324

GRAY HAIRED MEN FOOLISH TO BE GRAY AND LOOK OLD

New Tonic Stops Hair Falling Out and Banishes Every Gray Hair in Your Head

USE AT HOME LITTLE WHILE; NO TROUBLE

"My hair had been falling out for years until it was mighty thin in spots and had turned gray, too, so I bought one thing and then another but nothing helped me until I saw Lea's Hair Tonic advertised. It is wonderful stuff," declared Albert Jannz, who, like many others here, is no longer gray or bothered with dandruff or falling hair.

"I didn't have faith in Lea's but gave it a trial anyhow and am glad I did for it works like magic. Results were astonishing and so perfect I recommend Lea's Hair Tonic to everybody and think gray haired men are foolish not to use it. It makes a man look years younger and better groomed," continued Mr. Jannz, 2910 South J Street, Tacoma, Wash.

Thousands of men massage a drop or two of Lea's into their scalp with finger tips and are delighted beyond words at the youthful, improved appearance it brings to the hair. It doesn't strain or give a dyed appearance. It is a clear clean smelling liquid even the most fastidious people use with delight. One can defy their barber to detect the use of Lea's and gradually day by day the hair goes back to its youthful color. Then an occasional massaging keeps the head and scalp in vigorous healthy condition entirely free of gray or dandruff.

If the reader desires to try Lea's let them obtain a bottle at nearest drug store on positive guarantee of satisfaction or money back, or send dollar bill, check or stamps to Lea Hair Tonic Co., Brentwood, Md., a regular size bottle will be mailed to you.