

Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: The dramatic mind of Ferdinand Francis groups at once from Nan's story the possibility that Robert Leonard has made a third attempt on the life of Nan's husband, Jervis Ware, by seeking the bridge that almost plunged Nan and Jervis to death the day before. Ferdinand warns out of Nan the further fact that it was her self-sacrificing attempt to protect Jervis that put her in danger. Ferdinand inspects the bridge.

Chapter 24
F. F. MAKES A POINT
They lunched next day with the Tetterleys. Janet rang up and invited them in a casual, inconspicuous manner. She said Basher was dying to meet Nan.

She extended her original invitation to include Ferdinand, and finished up by hoping that they wouldn't be poisoned, because she had a new cook and Basher said she had a Lucrulia Borgia sort of look about her.

The heat held. After a time their road lay along the low cliffs. The blue of the sky and the blue of the sea swam together in a trembling haze. The car was an open one. The sun flooded down upon them, and there was no breeze but what they made themselves.

They skidded down a steep hill and tore up the other side. Nan felt exactly as if she were in an elevator; but there was something exhilarating about it too. She laughed as they raced at the hill, and Jervis looked sideways at her and smiled.

"Nice view here."
The road was on the edge of the cliff. The sea was blue beneath them; the water sparkled in the sun. "Bad bit of road on that hill, F. F. Quite like old times! I can't get anyone to do anything about it, and what I'll be like after another winter, Lord knows." He turned to Nan. "That's your friend Leonard's chicken farm."

Nan sat up straight. She saw a green field dotted with hen-houses, and a neglected garden that had grown right up to the walls of an old stone house. The whole place looked uncared for.

"What a frightful place!" she said.
Jervis laughed.
"A bit untidy! It's been empty for ever so long. I must say he doesn't seem in a hurry to get things straight."

"It's a hateful house," said Nan, looking at it. "I'm not surprised it was empty a long time—I shouldn't think anyone would want to live there ever."
Jervis slowed down as they went past.

"It belonged to a famous smuggler called Old Foxy Fixon. He lived about a hundred years ago, and after his grandson died people said the place was haunted, and nobody would live there. It's still called Old Foxy Fixon's house. It belongs to the Tetterleys, and I expect they were very glad to get it let."

A bare quarter of a mile farther on they turned in at the Tetterleys' gate.

Basher, alias George Tetterley, proved to be a massive, silent person. He had kind eyes, and a ridiculously soft voice which he used as little as possible. Janet Tetterley talked enough for half a dozen.

'INSPECTOR' EYES MEDFORD STORES TO VOICE GLOOM

Official inspection of the "terrible situation" in Medford was started this morning by a gentleman in a good looking gray suit, who smoked his pipe while posing as "Inspector extraordinary" and sighed deeply in punctuation of his conclusion. "There's nothing we can do about it," after calling at several local stores.

His visitation was reported about noon by several members of "Don't Quote Me, Inc.," rapidly becoming one of Medford's largest associations. The figure, although inconspicuously and appropriately attired, attracted the attention of a modern Piped Piper of Hamelin and had numerous shopkeepers trailing after him, several steps behind as he went the round of stores.

"Don't bother me," he informed one store proprietor as he strode into the shop, "I'm here on inspection."

Forthwith he continued to the back of the front, the sides of the shop, staring at all with disgust and the exclamation, "Isn't it terrible!"

Leaving the shop he called, "Come here!" The proprietor followed.

"Look down the street," the gray suited man demanded.

"Look up the street," the inspector added with equal spirit. Again the proprietor responded, only to greet the same familiar view of Main street.

"Terrible, isn't it?" the inspector repeated.

"What's the solution?" asked the proprietor in hopes of sounding a clue to the mystery.

"That, my friend, is a big question. If I could answer it I would be paid a million dollars." With that the inspector strode down the street to repeat the performance at other shops, where he added, "I'm just going to inspect the pears. But there's no use." Puffity sounded through each tone of his voice.

Straub Funeral This Afternoon

EUGENE, Ore., Sept. 21.—(AP) Funeral service for Dr. John Straub, 81, dean emeritus of men at the University of Oregon, will be held at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon in the Music building on the university campus.

High Court Backs Reciprocal Wills

SALEM, Sept. 21.—(AP) Reciprocal will made by man and wife where one accepts the benefits of the other are enforceable contracts, the Oregon supreme court held today in the case involving the will of George J. Moore.

Ex-Marine Chief Seriously Injured

LEXINGTON, Va., Sept. 20.—(AP) Major-General John A. Lejeune, 65, superintendent of Virginia Military Institute, was in a serious condition today as a result of injuries suffered in a fall while walking down an embankment on the campus.

Willamette Shows Registration Drop

SALEM, Sept. 21.—(AP) First day registrations at Willamette university yesterday totaled 413, a decrease of 105 over the initial registration last year.

Few Fat Lambs In Southern Oregon

CORVALLIS, Ore., Sept. 21.—(AP) Scarcity of choice fat lambs in southern Oregon and firming prices for ewe stock are shown in the weekly

Mayor Blamed In Strike Tragedy

SOUTH RIVER, N. J., Sept. 21. (AP) The four men who serve with Mayor James B. Armstrong on the borough council, in a statement today blamed him for bringing to the borough the 40 private detectives whose presence precipitated a riot that cost the life of a nine-year-old boy, Walter Rojek.

Whitney Backs Bonus Payment

GARDEN CITY, N. Y., Sept. 21.—(AP)—Cornelius Whitney, democratic candidate for the house seat now held by his personal friend, Robert L. Bacon, today urged immediate payment of the soldiers' bonus, taking a view directly opposite to that of Bacon, who is seeking re-election.

Grape Juice Plant Running Full Blast

ERIE, Pa., Sept. 21.—(AP) Officials of the Welch Grape Juice company today announced that its plant at Northeast, near here, is operating day and night with a force of 400 persons, mostly women.

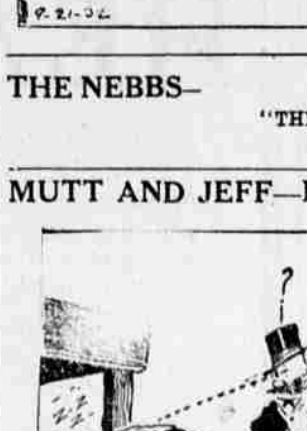
Kerrs Live in Eugene

EUGENE, Ore., Sept. 21.—(AP) Chancellor and Mrs. W. J. Kerr have established residence in Eugene. They will occupy the home of the late Mrs. Prince L. Campbell until the president's residence is vacated by Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Hall.

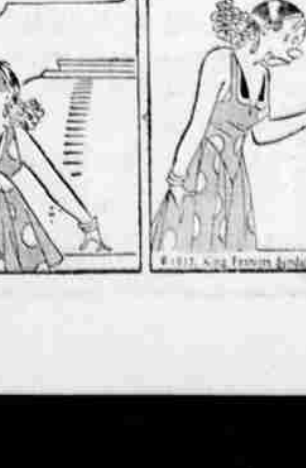
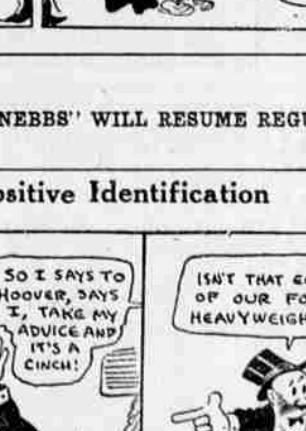
For those "Thrifty"

Pure silk hose—Special 75c
ETHELWYN B. HOFFMANN
Sixth & Holly.

TAILSPIN TOMMY—The Kite Signal!



BOUND TO WIN—Hassett's Story



S'MATTER POP—Pop's A Diplomat



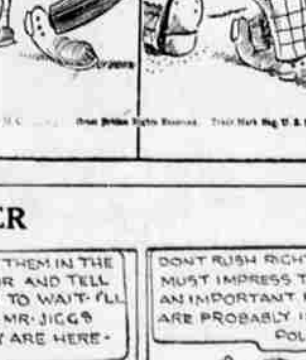
THE NEBBS

"THE NEBBS" WILL RESUME REGULAR APPEARANCE ON THIS PAGE WHEN SHIPMENT IS RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK.

MUTT AND JEFF—Positive Identification



BRINGING UP FATHER



By SOL HESS

By BUD FISHER

By George McManus

DESPONDENT GIRL LEAPS TO DEATH

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., Sept. 21.—(AP)—The young blonde woman who leaped to her death from top of a gigantic "H" part of a 50-foot high illuminated sign in the Hollywood hills, was identified today as Lillian Millmont ("Pop") Rutwiate, New York stage actress, graduate of the Theatre Guild, who had failed to find recognition in the movies here.

The body was found yesterday at the foot of the sign. The girl apparently had been dead 24 hours. She left a note saying: "I'm afraid I'm coward. I am sorry for everything. If I had done this long ago it would have saved a lot of pain."

MODERN DRAMA STUDY OFFERED

Announcement was made today that the University of Oregon extension division will offer in Medford a course in modern European drama, providing a sufficient number enroll. Professor Arthur S. Taylor will be the instructor.

The course, to be conducted one evening per week at a time best suited to the group, will count two term hours of regular university credit. Tuition will be \$8, the announcement states, with the first meeting to be called during the week of September 28.

Professor Taylor, who is offering the course, is just finishing his doctorate at the University of Southern California, and has studied special courses under prominent men who are well educated on this subject.

F. W. Bartlett, Medford's Taxidermist and Furrer, has opened shop, 43 So. Central St., Craterian Bldg. Prices on all taxidermist and fur work greatly reduced.

Broken windows glazed by Trowbridge Cabinet Works.

By GLENN CHAFFIN and HAL FORREST

By EDWIN ALGER

By C. M. PAYNE

By SOL HESS

By BUD FISHER

By George McManus