

Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: A reason why the bridge which nearly dropped Jervis and herself to their deaths roared so suddenly to their deaths instead of her husband and herself. She is sure Robert Leonard, mysterious friend of Rosamund's, is her husband's former fiancé, tampered with the bridge. But how can it be proved?

Chapter 23 VEILED THREATS

THE path under the rhododendrons was cool and dark; a faint breath of damp rose up from between the twisted stems. There was water not very far away. Jervis walked beside Rosamund Carew, but he didn't look at her; he looked into the green gloom ahead of them.

When they came to the place where a couple of planks crossed a brook, he stood still and said, "What do you want to say to me?"

"Quite a lot of things."

Jervis looked at her in order to insure the direction of a portentous frown.

"If you've really got anything to say to me, I think this would be a good place to say it, and then we can go back and join the others."

"It must have been a nasty jolt for you. Pretty good team work—wasn't it?"

Rosamund swung round and stood with her back to him for a moment. Then she said over her shoulder,

"You needn't rub it in."

"I don't want to talk about it," said Jervis—"I never did. Don't you think we might go back to the others?"

"No."

"Is there anything else you want to say to me? Because if not—"

"Of course there is!"

"Let's get on with it then."

Rosamund turned round. Her face never varied from its even pallor, but a still paler line seemed to have been drawn from nose to mouth.

"You're as hard as nails," she said. "It's no use trying to work on your feelings, because you haven't got any."

"Yes?"

She made a slight gesture with her cigarette.

"Jervis—I've got to have some money. I can't go on—the situation's impossible—I owe about twenty-five hundred."

Jervis frowned at the running water.

"You can send the bills to me. I'll settle them this time, but not



"I've got a lot of things to say," she declared.

"Won't she let you speak to me? Poor old Jervis! There was a light drawing contempt in her voice."

Jervis smiled, that sudden, dangerous smile of his.

"You are too attractive," he said. "You always were. A man must defend himself."

Rosamund drew at her cigarette. "I've been wondering where on earth I'd seen her before. She used to dance at Solano's, didn't she?"

Jervis nodded.

"I believe she did. Have you anything to say about it?"

"No—I just wondered whether you know."

"Certainly I knew. Is that all you wanted to say to me? Shall we go back and have our coffee?"

"It isn't nearly all. Your coffee will have to wait. I've got a lot of things to say to you."

"Say them," said Jervis.

She threw away the end of her cigarette. It fell into the water and with a little hiss went dead. She drew rather a long breath, and turned away from Jervis.

"Did you wonder why I broke off the engagement?"

"Oh no—it was perfectly obvious."

"You think I did it to get the money?"

Jervis' eyes met hers for a moment. Their expression was one of amusement. It stung her into a hot protest.

"Wha... a foul mind you've got! No wonder you were livid, if you thought I'd done a beastly thing like that!"

Jervis laughed.

"Perhaps you'd like to explain why you did it?"

"I can't. But it wasn't anything to do with the money. You can't possibly believe a thing like that!"

"Can't it?"

"No, you can't. It's not true anyway. And if you hadn't rushed off and married the first girl who vamped you, everything would have been all right."

DOCTOR ATTACKS FREE TREATMENT

KLAMATH FALLS, Sept. 23.—(AP)—An attack on governmental participation in medical economics was made by Dr. E. L. Zimmerman of Eugene in the opening presidential address

yesterday before Oregon State Medical society in convention here. Dr. Zimmerman devoted his entire address to a stinging condemnation of activities by state, federal, county and municipal governments which he said are encroaching upon the legitimate field of the medical profession and threatening that ancient profession with a financial crisis.

Dr. Zimmerman cited the vast development of publicly owned hospitals which he said offered practically free to patients.

WISCONSIN VOTE RAP AT RADICALS

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—(AP)—United States Senator Daniel O. Hastings, of Delaware, assistant chairman of the Republican eastern headquarters said today that the result of the Wisconsin primary was "an impressive rejection of radicalism as has taken place at the polls for many elections in that state."

"The Kohler-Chapelle triumph in Wisconsin, with its discard of radicalism," Senator Hastings said, "is very heartening in a year when we need sober and sound thinking."

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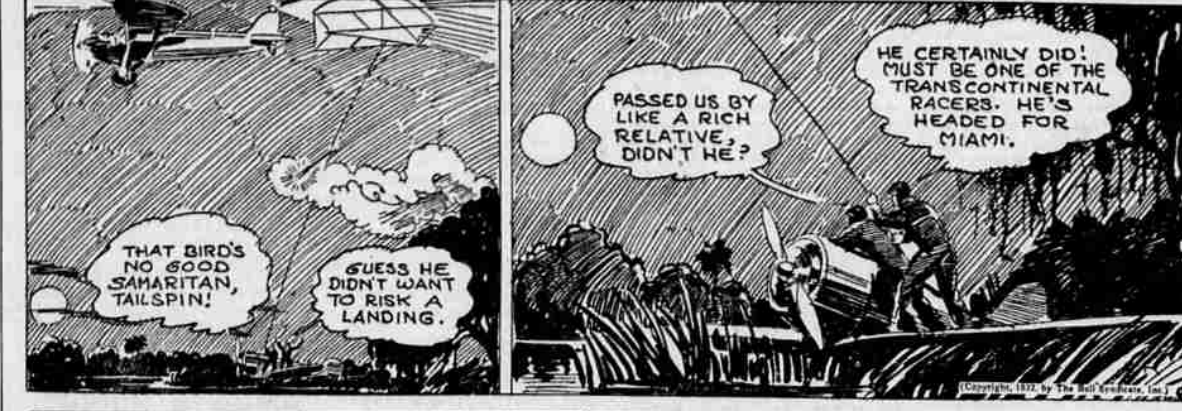
LABOR NEUTRAL TOWARD PARTIES

CHICAGO, Sept. 23. (AP)—A statement from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor,

stating the federation is maintaining a non-partisan political policy in the present campaign was made public today at Republican national campaign headquarters.

"Neither the executive council nor myself has given official endorsement to any political party or to the presidential candidate of any party," the statement said. "The executive council and myself are committed to the observance of a non-partisan policy during the national political campaign."

TAILSPIN TOMMY—The First Disappointment!



BOUND TO WIN—The Story Goes On



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S'MATTER POP—"Truth Will Out"



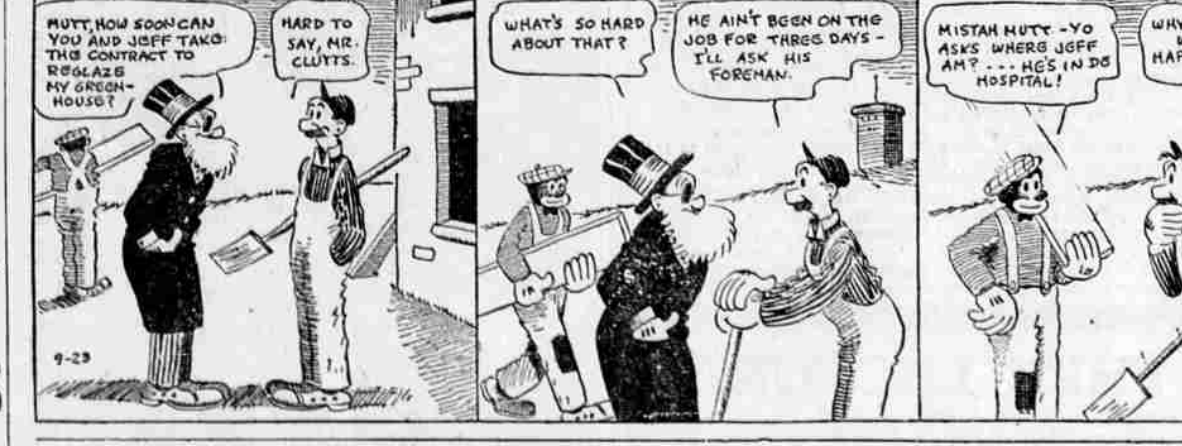
By C. M. PAYNE

THE NEBBS—Why Not?



By SOL HESS

MUTT AND JEFF—Ten Minutes Meant A Lot Of Time



By BUD FISHER

BRINGING UP FATHER



By George McManus

NO R. F. C. FUNDS FOR FALL SPANS

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 23.—(AP)—Oregon probably cannot obtain funds from the reconstruction finance corporation for construction of toll bridges on the Oregon Coast highway, Philip White, counsel for the corporation, Washington, D. C., said in a letter received today by J. M. Devers, attorney for the state highway commission.

Believing such funds might be available, the commission recently instructed Devers to inquire about the method of making application. White in his reply said the act requires that construction cost of projects for which money is loaned must be derived from sources other than taxation.

"Your proposed plan," he wrote, "contemplates that upwards of \$110,000 of the annual amount to be paid on the loan is to be derived not from toll bridge revenues but from funds raised by taxation."

HOOVER TOO BUSY TO WATCH SERIES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—(AP)—After attending the last three world series President Hoover today let it be announced that he would not be present at any of the games between the Chicago Cubs and the New York Yankees.

There had been reports that Mr. Hoover would attend the opening game of the current series at New York on September 23 but Theodore Joslin, one of his secretaries, told newspapermen that he would not.

Mr. Hoover traveled to Philadelphia for at least one game of the 1929, 1930 and 1931 baseball classes.

May Undergo Knife
BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 23.—(AP)—Under observation to determine if an operation will be necessary, Jas. C. Stone, chairman of the Federal farm board, today is at the Brady clinic at Johns Hopkins hospital.

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