

# Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

**SYNOPSIS:** Nan struggles back from oblivion to find her husband's bloody head in her lap. Jervis' car has turned over on the edge of a cliff just after they had dropped Robert Leonard at his ill-looking farm—only a short while after Rosamund Carver, Jervis' former fiancée, has dropped a hint about bringing Jervis' bad luck. Ferdinand works feverishly to bring Jervis back to consciousness.

Chapter 20  
**WHAT CAUSED THE SMASH**  
NAN wept wildly over the body of her husband. For a long moment Jervis was still. Nan searched feverishly for her own handkerchief, not to dry her tears, but to wipe away the salt water that ran over Jervis' face as Ferdinand worked over him.

Before she found the handkerchief Jervis muttered something unintelligible, opened his eyes, put his hand to his head, and sat up. He frowned at Nan, and said:

"What are you crying for? Are you hurt?"

The tears ran down Nan's face. They ran into the corners of her mouth and tasted salt; they ran down on to her neck and trickled away under her dress. She didn't want them to run down like that, but they just came. And she couldn't find her handkerchief. She complained about it out loud.

"I can't find my handkerchief." The last word was split in two by a choking sob. It was a devastating depth of misery to be sitting crying in the dust, with Jervis scowling at her, and not to be able to find a handkerchief.

"Is that why you're crying?" said Jervis.

"I thought you were dead!" said Nan; and as she said it Ferdinand's hand came over her shoulder with a clean folded handkerchief.

Jervis looked at her with gloomy dissatisfaction. What was she getting at? It would be a very good thing for her if he was dead, because she would be free and quite well provided for. It was ridiculous to cry about it. But she had been crying. The wet on his cheek was blood, but the wet on his head wasn't. Had she been crying all over his hair?

He had got as far as this, when Ferdinand addressed him.

"Anything broken?"

"Broken?" he said. Then he scrambled on to his feet. "What made that damned wheel come off?"

He stood staring at the car, with her three wheels in the air and her hood hitched up on the parapet. Her last drunken lurch had carried half of it away. The stones had gone down into the sea.

"If I hadn't yanked her round a bit, she'd have gone too," said Jervis.

Ferdinand agreed.

"That is so," he said soberly. "It was an extraordinarily bad moment!"

But no one was much the worse. Jervis had a scratch on the cheek and a bump on the back of the head. Nan had the feeling that she had made a fool of herself. Ferdinand had a pair of trousers which would never be the same again. And the car had a broken windshield, a buckled fender, and a badly dented hood—negligible injuries when contrasted with what might have been.

A tow car came out from Croyston, retrieving the missing wheel at the bottom of the hill. Three dusty and disreputable people walked back to the Tetterleys' to use the telephone and wash.

Leonard, who was emerging from a hen-house, saw them pass. He did not think that they had seen him. He stepped back into the house. Presently he saw Walters, the Weara chauffeur, drive past in the big town car, and a little after that again he watched him return with Jervis, Nan, and Ferdinand.

When the fruit was on the table after dinner, and the servants had left the room, Nan leaned back in her chair and said:

"Why did that wheel come off?"

"I don't know," said Jervis. "Walters swears he went over the wheel-nuts with a wrench only yesterday—but then of course he'd be bound to say that."

Ferdinand picked up a grape, looked at it, and bit it neatly in half.

"How long's he been here?"

"Fifteen years."

"Methodical chap?"

Jervis nodded.

"But the wheel came off," he said.

## HORSE PARALYSIS CURE IS CLAIMED

Cure advanced for encephalomyelitis, form of paralysis, which has been attacking and killing numerous horses in Jackson county, was reported to the Mail Tribune Saturday by Mrs. Roy Stanley, who obtained the prescription from California stockmen. The stockmen stated that the disease was cured in their state and many horses saved when given soda or nitre or both.

In giving nitre, Mrs. Stanley said, the prescription calls for three table-spoons full a day. The soda prescription for half a package three times a day. Many farmers, whose animals were in the advanced stages of the disease, she said, gave both remedies and the horses recovered.

## RAIL REGULATION HELD DETRIMENT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25. — (AP) — Less government regulation of railroads was postponed Saturday to the chamber of commerce of the United States as part of a new national transportation policy designed to strengthen the carriers' economic foundation.

A special committee, under the chairmanship of F. C. Dillard, of Sherman, Texas, made the recommendation. It was ordered by the directorate to be submitted to a referendum of the chamber's membership.

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## LEGION WILL SELECT NEW HEADS TONIGHT

Annual election of officers of Medford Post No. 15 of the American Legion will take place this evening at the Armory. Several candidates for the leading offices have already been named and other nominations will be in order tonight, just preceding the election. Every local Legionnaire is requested to be on hand to ballot for his favorite candidates and to hear the reports of the state and national conventions by the Medford delegates.

Horace Bromley and Carl Tengwald will report on their activities during the convention, intended to promote better feeling among southern Oregon veterans.

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## TAILSPIN TOMMY—Sighted But Not Rescued!



## BOUND TO WIN—Jonathan's Disappointment



## S'MATTER POP—A Subtle Approach



## THE NEBBS—And On The Other Hand



## MUTT AND JEFF—Meet The World's Champ Pessimist—A. Mut



## BRINGING UP FATHER



### Meteorological Report

September 26, 1932.

**Forecasts.**  
Medford and vicinity: Tonight and Tuesday fair; moderate temperature. Oregon: Fair tonight and Tuesday, but foggy on coast; moderate temperature.

**Local Data.**  
Lowest temperature this morning, 40 degrees.

Temperature a year ago today:  
Highest, 84; lowest, 42.

Total precipitation since September 1, 1932, 0 inches.

Relative humidity at 5 p. m. yesterday, 23%; 5 a. m. today, 79%.

Sunrise today, 6:02 p. m.  
Sunset tomorrow, 6:04 a. m.  
Sunset tomorrow, 6:00 p. m.

Observations Taken at 5 a. m., 120 Meridian Time.

City	High	Temp	Wind	Clouds
Boise	70	46	02	Clear
Chicago	64	52	10	Rain
Denver	66	44	T	Cloudy
Des Moines	66	54	T	Cloudy
Eureka	58	48	—	Cloudy
Fresno	64	58	—	Clear
Helena	60	38	—	Clear
Los Angeles	78	60	—	Cloudy
Marshall	62	44	—	Cloudy
MEDFORD	78	42	—	Cloudy
New York	66	52	—	Clear
Phoenix	94	72	—	Clear
Portland	68	50	—	Clear
Reno	78	38	02	Clear
Roseburg	70	42	—	Clear
Salt Lake	76	52	T	Clear
San Francisco	64	56	—	Clear
Seattle	60	48	—	Cloudy
Spokane	72	40	—	Clear

**Canning Tuesday At C. Pt. Grange Hall**

CENTRAL POINT, Sept. 25. — (Sp.) Community relief committee announces that County Demonstrator Mabel Mack will be at the Grange hall Tuesday morning, September 27, with canning cooker, sealer and cans, and wishes all ladies who will act as helpers to come all or part of the day. She requests they bring paring knives, large kettles or any needed equipment for the work. The hall will be open by 8:30 a. m.

Broken windows glazed by Trowbridge Cabinet Works.