

Outrageous Fortune

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: Jim Randal, struggling to regain his memory of the last six weeks' events, finds the stolen Van Berg envelope in a secret hiding place in his boyhood home. He has been told by Nesta Riddell that he stole them himself, and that he is her husband. But the envelope was snatched from his hand by another man, who escapes with them. Jim meets Nesta's sister-in-law in Ledington, and learns enough to suspect that his superior is the man who communicated into the night before with Nesta.

Chapter 41 THE MAJOR CALLS

AS JIM RANDAL entered the free library in Ledington, a car stopped at Miss Patsy Arbuthnot's wicket gate and a small dapper man got out. He slammed the door of the car behind him, clicked open the front door, and delivered a smart rat-tat.

He wore an air of military impatience, and after the briefest of intervals his knock was repeated, and so loudly as to bring Patsy Ann out of the scullery without waiting to dry her hands. Her consternation was considerable at finding the Chief Constable on the doorstep at such an hour—the breakfast things not cleared away; her feet—Patsy was proud of her feet—in her oldest shoes; and her hands and arms dripping with the gorumium dye in which she had just immersed an aged pink sports coat.

Her color rose. She put up a hand to her hair, left a gruesome stain on her temple, and said in an agitated voice, "Oh good morning, Major Anderson—I'm dyeing."

Hang it all, the girl looked as if she had been killing a pig.

With this in the back of his mind, he removed his hat and said, "Good morning."

"I'm afraid I'm an early visitor," he proceeded, "but I've come on a matter of business. Perhaps I might see Miss Leigh."

Patsy indicated a chair, apologized for the breakfast things, and ran upstairs in despair to inform Caroline.

Major Anderson is downstairs, and my coat's only half done—and just look at me!

Caroline was dusting her dressing-table. She straightened up with her back to Patsy.

"Major Anderson?"

"Yes—the Chief Constable—on business. What can he want? He asked for you. I must just get some of this stuff off my hands. Do come down."

"All right," said Caroline without moving.

She put on a little rouge and went down.

Major Anderson was looking out of the window. He might have been admiring the dahlias. He turned as she came down the stairs, said, "How do you do?" and pulled a chair away from the breakfast table for her.

"Miss Leigh," he said, "I've called at what, I hope, is not a very inconvenient hour to make some inquiries about—well, about Jim Randal."

Caroline said, "Yes?" Her voice sounded deep and mournful. It did not shake; that was one comfort.

"Now, Miss Leigh," said Major Anderson—"perhaps you would mind telling me when you last heard from Jim Randal?"

"It was the beginning of August," said Caroline.

"Can you give me the date?"

"Yes—the fourth."

"Would you mind telling me what he said?"

"Oh no. It was just a few lines. I was staying with Mrs. Ogilvie at Craigellachie. Jim was coming there too. He wrote to say he would take a steamer up the coast."

"Did he say what steamer?"

"No."

"Did you hear again?"

"No, we didn't."

Major Anderson leaned forward. "Had you any reason to suppose that he was on the Alice Arden?"

His small, sharp grey eyes fixed Caroline.

"We thought he must have been."

"Why?"

"He didn't come, and he didn't write."

"I see. You say he didn't write. You're sure of that? You're sure he hasn't communicated with you since the wreck of the Alice Arden?"

"Quite sure," said Caroline. She wondered whether this was a lie. What was communicating?"

"Now, Miss Leigh—I believe you went to the Elston cottage hospital in response to a broadcast message stating that they had a man there who appeared to have lost his memory. It was believed that his name was Jim Riddell, or Randal. You went there?"

"Yes."

AUTHOR'S FORTUNE IS DEEP MYSTERY

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—(UP)—An attempt to solve the last mystery concocted by John Hoffman, writer of dime detective tales, will be made tomorrow by the executor of his estate. The reward for the correct solution may be \$500,000.

A court order was issued today permitting Dr. Elmer Hoffman, brother of the elderly author, to search the house in which he died in 1928, at the age of 63. Dr. Hoffman believes that somewhere in the gloomy old building, locked up with all its furnishings intact since the death of his brother, he will find a missing half million dollars in stocks and bonds.

Dr. Hoffman said that his brother told him a short time before his death that he was worth \$500,000. Only \$25,000 in assets has been discovered, including the house.

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GAME PROTECTION FACTS AVAILABLE

Regarding the matter of game law violations recently considered in this

GROUP ORDERING

paper the U. S. department of agriculture has just issued a new bulletin entitled "Game Laws for the Season 1933-34," which contains a summary of the provisions of federal, state and provincial statutes.

This bulletin is issued in order to inform hunters, farmers, and others interested in wild life regarding the relation of restrictions on hunting to the future enjoyment of the sport

By C. M. PAYNE

and to aid federal and state law-enforcement officials in the administration of the migratory bird treaty and Lacey acts, and other laws for the conservation and restoration of game, conservation and restoration of game.

Copies of this bulletin may be secured by writing to Congressman James W. Mott, Salem, Oregon.

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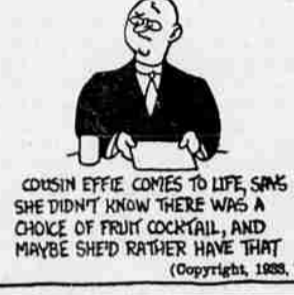
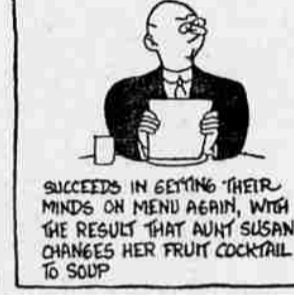
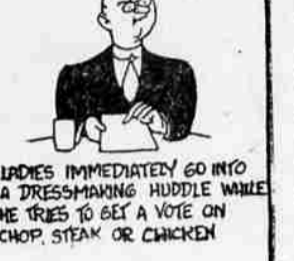
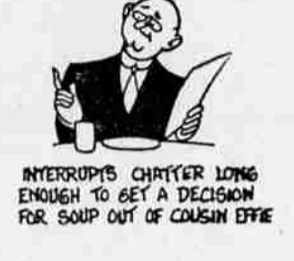
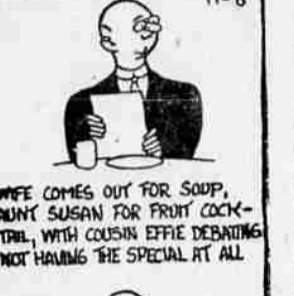
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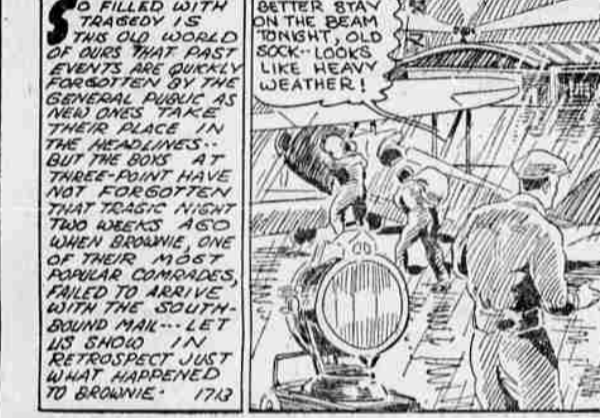


By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

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TAILSPIN TOMMY—Brownie's "Last" Flight!



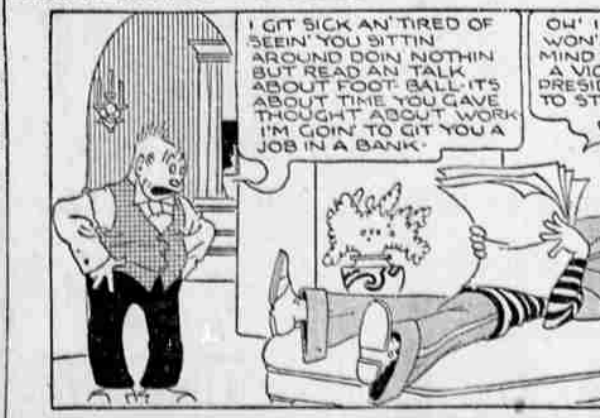
BOUND TO WIN—The Bad News!



THE NEBBS—Thanks To You



BRINGING UP FATHER



LOGGING PERMITS TO COME FROM THOMAS

SALEM, Nov. 8.—(AP)—All logging permits heretofore will be issued by the public utilities commissioner, and not by the state highway commission, it was ruled today. The commission made the order following legal interpretation of the bus and truck law which stated the issuance of permits to haul logs over highways comes under the jurisdiction of the utilities commissioner.

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