

# I did not kill Osborne

By VICTOR BRIDGES

**SYNOPSIS:** Nicholas Trench just has been acquitted of murder. He did not kill Osborne, but the trial brought out no evidence as to who did the deed. Now Nicholas has been invited by his family solicitor, Mr. Cresswell, to spend the night at his house. Nicholas' only pleasant memory of the trial is the face of a girl who smiled every session.

## Chapter Two SEYMOUR'S LETTER

I SHOOK my head. "It's frightfully kind of you. I break in. 'You've been an absolute brick all through, and I can never begin to thank you sufficiently for a quarter of what you've done.' I paused. 'All the same,' I added, 'if you won't think me ungrateful I'd rather be alone for the next few hours. I—I want to get things straight in my own mind.'"

"Why, of course," Mr. Cresswell seated himself beside me. "You do exactly as you please, my boy. If you feel you would be better by yourself, well and good. Don't try to think too much, however. Look on it all as a wretched mistake—that's finished and done with, and tomorrow or the next day, when you are quite yourself again, you must come along to lunch with me and we'll have a good long talk."

I stared at him for a moment in silence. "Do you believe that peo-

ple will agree with the verdict?" I asked.

"Certainly I do: at least ninety-nine out of a hundred. There are always a few fools about who like to flatter themselves that they know better than the jury, but you can take it from me that every sensible man who has followed the case will be absolutely convinced of your innocence. That reminds me"—he put his hand in his breast pocket—"I've got a note for you here from your cousin."

"What—Seymour?" I inquired.

He nodded. "It was sent round to my office this morning with a covering letter. He expressed a wish that it should be handed to you before you left the court."

I SLIT open the envelope with a certain curiosity. Even in the midst of my own troubles I had found time to wonder more than once what sort of emotions the arrest and trial of his nearest relative had aroused in the mind of my distinguished kinsman. The note had been addressed from 3, St. James's Man-

chester, and was dated the previous evening.

My dear Nicholas,

Since you will receive this as soon as you have been cleared of the appalling charge at present hanging over you, I hope to be the first to offer you my congratulations and to express the profound relief which the news of your acquittal will bring to your family and friends.

I am extremely anxious that, before you take any steps at all with regard to your future, you should give me the opportunity of offering you my advice and assistance. I shall be at home tomorrow evening from five to seven-thirty, and I trust and hope that you will come straight here directly you are at liberty to do so.

Your affectionate cousin,  
Seymour Trench

I folded up the missive and replaced it in its envelope.

"What has he got to say about it all?" I asked.

"Have you seen him or talked to him?"

Mr. Cresswell hesitated. "We had an interview at my office. He wanted to know whether any money would be required in order to provide for your defense, but I assured him that, as far as that side of the matter was concerned, there was no occasion to worry. I need hardly add that he was extremely agitated and—

—and distressed."

"Yes," I said, "I imagine that it

must have upset him—quite a lot."

My companion cleared his throat. "To a man of Sir Seymour's temperament and position," he observed, "the shock was naturally a severe one. At the same time I see no reason for doubting that his concern was principally on your account. I am sure he will be prepared to do everything in his power to help and encourage you at this—this difficult juncture."

"Well, we shall see," I remarked.

I put the letter in my pocket and rose to my feet.

"GOOD-BYE, Mr. Cresswell," I said. "I'm unutterably grateful to you for all your kindness, but I feel too stupid and dazed to express

more than my thanks."

He smiled and shook his head. "I am glad to hear that," he said. "I shall be glad to see you again, and I shall be glad to hear how you get on."

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# 'HARD TIMES' END SEEN IN SWEDEN AS TRADE GROWS

## Replacement Boom Spurs Business in Many Lines—Psychology of Public More Like Old Boom Days

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Sweden has recovered from the depression, on the surface at least, and largely through a so-called "replacement" boom that finds hotels buying chinaware and furniture, farmers purchasing new tractors, and the man in the street spending as in days of old.

In some ways, economists and observers are agreed, the nation of 6,000,000 people has passed the high point of 1929 prosperity.

Psychology Changes. Most important, it is pointed out, is that the psychology of the public is approaching that of the boom years before the depression set in. Money is being spent. Industry on the whole is busy. The farmers, with two good crops to their credit, are satisfied. Employers and workmen are on good terms.

Statistics can be brought to bear from almost every angle in what economists admit is an almost freakish situation.

Unemployment Down. Only 80,000 persons are without

# REPUBLICAN SOLON HAS PLAN TO GIVE 10,000,000 WORK

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Nov. 27.—(AP)—Senator Thomas D. Schall, Republican, Minnesota, in a letter today to President Roosevelt offered a program which he said would put 10,000,000 unemployed to work in six months.

Half of them would be at work in 90 days and 2,000,000 in 30 days, Schall said, "by the simple process of producing what we consume in the United States."

Remove the limitations on production of sugar in the United States. That will put 2,000,000 men to work and require erection of 200 sugar refineries. Place a duty on blackstrap molasses. That, said the senator, would create a demand for corn, driving its price to \$1 a bushel and employ 2,000,000.

Raise duties on textiles, canned fish, glass, pottery, meat, milk, fresh vegetables, shoes, electric globes, iron and steel, copper and coal and various other manufactured goods, and 5,000,000 persons will be employed.

Employment of these 7,000,000, in turn, will create such demand for products that it will take 3,000,000 more to produce them.

Schall explained this was offered purely as a constructive proposal. He has persistently criticized the new deal.

For bargains in oranges, 123 North Riverside.

For the first eight months of this year imports have totalled \$305,400,000 and exports \$198,500,000.

Domestic consumption of iron, steel and wood has reached a high point in what economists accept as a most important indicator of an upward trend.

A marked difference of opinion prevails as to the extent to which this economic recovery can be credited to government policy, since the public works program of the social democratic government got under way only a year ago. Sweden's immense natural resources and favorable foreign trade factors likewise are given credit.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Nov. 26.—(AP)—Hollywood rubbed its eyes, looked again to make sure, but the newspaper headlines told the story: Margaret Sullivan, screen actress, slopes to Yuma, Ariz., and marries her director, William Wyler. They met only eight weeks ago.

This was Wyler's first marriage. Miss Sullivan was divorced two years ago from Henry Fonda, New York actor. Wyler is 33 and was born in France. Miss Sullivan who is 23, was born in Norfolk, Va.

# IRON CONSUMPTION UP

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# SUBURBAN HEIGHTS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



FRED PERLEY AND ERNIE PLUMER SPENT A WHOLE DAY TRYING TO PUT ON THEIR STORM WINDOWS, WHICH WOULDN'T FIT, BEFORE THEY DISCOVERED THAT THE CHORE MAN WHO HAD TAKEN THEM OFF IN THE SPRING, ON THE SAME DAY, HAD PUT MOST OF ERNIE'S WINDOWS INTO FRED'S CELLAR AND VICE VERSA

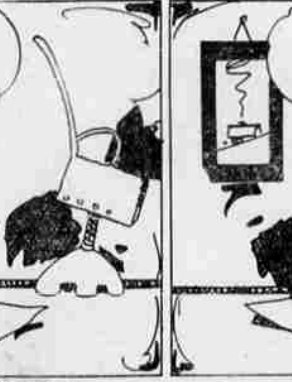
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# S MATTER POP—



2040

# TAILSPIN TOMMY—Double Crossing!



2040

# BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Answer!



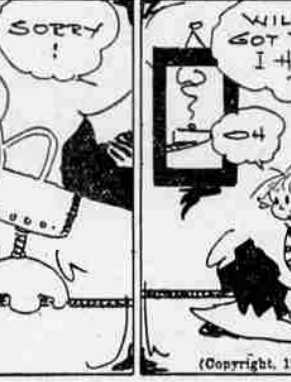
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# THE NEBBS—Shut Up



11-27

# BRINGING UP FATHER



11-27

# AND IS THAT JAKE WELER A HOST!



11-27

# 43-YEAR-OLD BEARD OKLAHOMAN'S PRIDE

CUSHING, Okla.—(UP)—Cushing's "Santa Claus" has let his whiskers grow 43 years.

Peter Kusman's long snow-white beard attracted attention wherever the 80-year-old farmer goes.

"In 1891 in Kansas I was ten hard up to buy a razor, so I just let my beard grow," he said.

"I liked it so well that I never have shaved since. My wife and my daughter, they trim it sometimes to keep it from getting waist-length."

Idaho Landmark Hazed. ECLISE, Idaho.—(UP)—A historic Idaho landmark has been destroyed.

Wreckers recently completed the work of a summer cyclone in demolishing the Moorish installation where many present Idaho grandparents learned to swim. It is said no one knew exactly how old the building was.

# ROSEBURG TRANSIENT HOME OPENING WAITS

ROSEBURG, Ore., Nov. 27.—(AP)—A failure of a shipment of coal and bedding to arrive on scheduled time today delayed the opening of the former Oregon State Soldiers Home as the Roosevelt home for transients.

William H. Bellie, director of the institution, the only one of its kind in the United States, reported that he expects the first contingent of 30 men to arrive the latter part of the week from the Eugene labor camp.

Lead Speaker Aided Campaign. JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—(UP)—Democratic campaign orators found themselves faced with a hard task resulting voters living back in the Ozark hills where there are no automobile roads. They solved the problem by setting up a bus—

—with a carrying-range of five miles.