

I did not kill Osborne

By VICTOR BRIDGES

Chapter 16
MOLLY'S STORY

"I SHOULD have been distinctly annoyed," said Jerry. "I hate losing pals, especially when I'm out of England." He stuffed some villainous looking black twill into the bowl of his pipe and rammed it down with his thumb. "Anyhow," he added, "I gather that it's all over now, and that I've just dropped in for the tail end of the banquet."

"Don't be in such a hurry," I said. "What you've heard so far is only the overture."

He raised an inquiring eyebrow. "Oh!" he remarked hopefully, "so there's more to come, is there?"

"Plenty!" In as few words as possible I went on to describe my interview with Seymour, and then amidst a profound silence I continued my story till I reached the unpleasant point when Mr. Stillman had stepped forward with the coil of rope.



"We're on the right track!" exclaimed Jerry.

"The swine moat business all right, Jerry," I said: "one could see it in his face. Don't know how it would have struck most people, but personally I much prefer being shot to being tortured. I was just getting ready to give him a plug in the rear and take the consequences, when a beautiful voice up in my bedroom suddenly began to telephone to the police."

I stopped and turned to Molly. "This is where you come in, partner," I added.

"But look here!" Jerry straightened himself and eyed me suspiciously. "Are you trying to pull my leg or is all this Drury Lane stuff an absolute fact?"

"It's the plain, unvarnished, strike-me-dead truth," I protested. "You wait till you hear our young friend here. She'll spin you a yarn that will make you sit up and whistle."

THUS encouraged Molly sat to work. In her soft Southern accent, with its faint hint of an Irish brogue, she recounted once again the strange and dramatic chain of events which had brought her to Queen's Studios. She told it all very simply, but watching Jerry's expression as the tale progressed, it was easy enough to see that he was already completely fascinated. He made no attempt to interrupt or question her until she had reached the end, and even then he sat for a moment or two puffing at his pipe—his eyes riveted on her face.

"By Jove, you've got some pluck!" he said slowly. "Do you mind if I shake hands with you?"

He got up, and having performed the ceremony with becoming gravity, re-seated himself in his chair.

Molly smiled. "I hate being thanked," she observed. "It was father's invention and I want him to have the full credit of it."

"How does it appeal to you, Jerry?" I inquired. "Would you like to throw up your idle, pleasure-hunting life for a few weeks and join us in a spot of detective work? You won't find us ungrateful, if we

BROTHERS WILL HEAD CHURCHES IN ENGLAND

LONDON.—(UP)—The Church of England and the Church of Scotland will be headed simultaneously by two bigwigs next May. When Rev. Dr. Marshall Buchanan takes formal possession of the general assembly of the latter church.

Rev. Long is a younger brother of the Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Episcopalian Church of England. He was recently nominated at a meeting of the general assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh.

The father of the two church leaders was at one time minister of the Church of Scotland and later principal of Aberdeen university.

The new moderator has been minister at Whittinghame for 18 years.

A white Angora cat owned by Mrs. George Kammeyer of Joplin, Mo. died at the age of 18 years.

MORGENTHAU DENIES CREDIT IS IMPAIRED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP) Secretary Morgenthau's answer was "no" today when asked to comment on the assertion of Lewis W. Douglas, former budget director, that the government's credit "already is seriously impaired."

It was the first public speech by Douglas since his resignation after differences with President Roosevelt over fiscal policies.

Morgenthau, next to the president now is the chief factor in preparing next year's budget.

Auto Amputated Thumb
ASHLETON, Tex.—(UP)—Taking hold of the spokes of the rear wheel of his automobile in an effort to roll the machine out of the garage, Adolphus Engle caught his thumb in the brake band. His thumb was cut off before the car could be stopped.

SPEEDY JUSTICE FOR MURDERER

VIENNA.—(UP) With all the speed it could summon, justice has disposed of handsome Alois Gaidasch, 21.

Three hours after a special lightning court had sentenced Alois to death for the murder of his father he was hanged.

Even then, the proceedings might have been quicker, but Alois kept fainting, and the Austrian law requires that the condemned man shall be conscious when the noose tightens.

Gaidasch killed his father during a quarrel in which his father forbade him to continue a love affair with a married woman. Gaidasch used a crowbar, which, it was established, he premeditatedly hid in his home.

When he had killed his father, he hid the body in a loft and invited his woman friend to spend the evening at his home. The next day he told his neighbors that his father had gone abroad. Eventually, when the odor became noticeable, he sewed the body in a potato sack and buried it.

Before his execution Gaidasch bequeathed all his possessions to the woman.

FRENCH APACHES USE GANG TACTICS

PARIS.—(UP)—French Apaches of the underworld here have started putting rival racketeers on the spot.

MANY THEORIES IN PORTLAND SLAYING

SALEM, Ore.—(UP)—Examining 25-year-old records of applications of attorneys for admission to the state bar, Arthur S. Benson, clerk of the state supreme court, has found the names of more than 200 lawyers ineligible to practice in Oregon.

The attorneys never completed their requirements, Benson said. The court is expected to declare the applicants void.

Benson said many of them came to Portland and Oregon during the Lewis and Clark fair of 1905 and in the years immediately following. Many of them did not stay, others changed to other lines of business and others are dead.

Germany's aluminum industry is enjoying a boom as the result of governmental restrictions on the use of copper, tin and zinc.

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THE WORLD AT ITS WORST

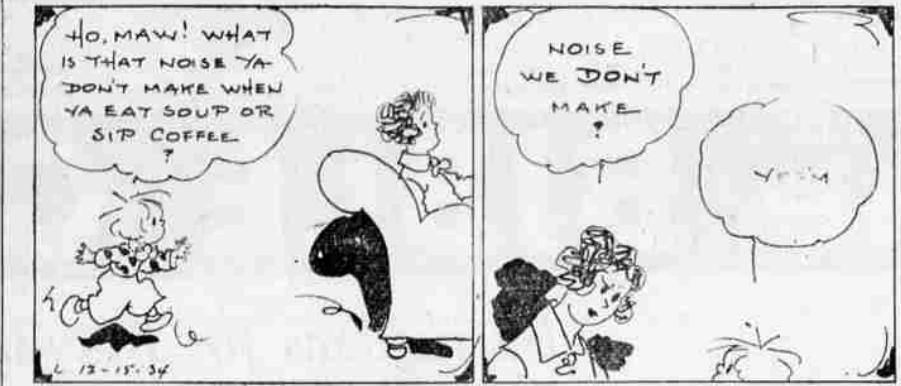
By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



THE UNPLEASANTLY EFFICIENT PERSON WHO HAS ALL HER CHRISTMAS WORK DONE WHEN YOU ARE ONLY BEGINNING YOURS

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