

LITTLE SPITEFIRE

By Jean Randall

YESTERDAY: Isobel rebukes Brenda for "carrying on" with Salus. Then Mac warns her to keep out of the Abernathy affair, and neatly abhors, himself, angrily reproaches her.

Chapter 13

The Case Against Ned

WHEN I heard Ned had skipped to California without so much as goodby to Alaine, I began to ask some questions. Abner went on. "It didn't take long to find out who had talked to him last. I can put two and two together and make four, even if I don't come from New York!"

He was out of the city limits by now and driving furiously. Brenda was interested to see with what skill he handled the small car despite his evident anger at her. She said soothingly:

"Ah, I wish you'd tell me why you're so set against Alaine's marrying Ned Barrow. If she loves him, I mean? What do you have against him?"

"Plenty!"

"The fight you and he had several years ago?"

He took his eyes from the road long enough to send her a glance of scorn.

"So he told you about that, too, did he? Suppose you know when he cut his first tooth, and what his grade in chemistry was when he graduated? No, if you must know; it has nothing to do with that fight. I'd forgotten it myself. I have—he spoke with great dignity—"good and sufficient reasons of my own why I oppose—"

"Why I always shall oppose my sister's marriage to Barrow."

She was slightly impressed in spite of his youthful appearance.

"Everybody else speaks well of him," she began. "Judge Harper—"

"That old goat! What does he know about Barrow—or Alaine and me, for that matter!"

She said neatly: "I notice you go straight to him every time Alaine threatens to leave. You evidently value the old goat's help in an emergency."

He had the grace to reddden. "Well, I do. He's a nice old goat, if you get what I mean; but he's old. Barrow and I are—"

"Contemporaries."

"You mean you know something about Ned Barrow that other people don't? Something that in your opinion rules him out as a husband for Alaine?"

"You can put it that way if you want to."

"What is it?" she asked simply.

"Never you mind what it is! You can take it from me—Alaine can take it from me—that he's not the right man for a sister of mine."

She smiled and shook her head. "I'm afraid you'll have to be more specific, Ab, my dear! In this day and age girls want to know the truth about matters touching so closely on their own lives."

He pressed his lips more firmly together. "I might tell you, but I'm not going to have Alaine know. She's not one of your kind of girls—modern, I mean," he added hastily. "I've had to be father and mother to her," he said solemnly, "and I've guarded and shielded her. I'm not going to have her know any more of the ugly facts of life than is strictly necessary."

His companion suppressed a smile. "Well, I've not been guarded and shielded, so you can safely confide in me. And it's much better to have me tell you the truth than your opponent, you know. What is this dreadful thing you know about Ned Barrow?"

and I were in a drugstore downtown one day last summer. It was one of those places where everything on earth is for sale—where there's even a lending library. Mac and I were standing behind the rack of books, out of sight of the rest of the store. We both noticed a girl with a child—kid about two, I guess. She stood watching the door. Mac had a copy of a biography he'd been wanting to read so he dipped into it, and we weren't talking when—when Barrow came in. The girl gave a little cry, and he came straight toward her. They talked a while and then she said: "Oh, Ned, have you brought the money?" And he just nodded—didn't say a word. She wiped her eyes with her handkerchief and said something about needing to buy clothes for the child. I nudged Mac and we both saw Barrow take out a handful of bills and give them to her. Then he patted the kid on the head and went out. But wait! He hurried on as though anticipating interruption. "That isn't all! She called the baby Edward! Now if you have any explanation of that besides the one Mac and I put on it, go to it!"

She looked grave. "How did he do it? I mean—was his manner nervous—disturbed?"

"It was furtive," he pronounced triumphantly. "He kept glancing over his shoulder and when he'd given her the money he got himself out of that store in record time."

"You never spoke to him about it?" Brenda asked.

He said heartily: "Of course I didn't! Barrow's morals are none of my affair—not unless he tries to marry my sister."

"But—but surely the only right and just thing is to tell her—Alaine, I mean. If this thing is true—and I'm awfully afraid it is—then it will put an end forever to anything between her and Ned."

"If it isn't—"

"I tell you I'm not going to have her mixed up in such a mess," was the dogged reply. "Alaine's different from most girls of her age. I've seen to that. Why even her bathing suits—"

He fell into bitter silence.

Ridiculous Twins

BRENDA remembered the low cut evening gown which had precipitated the last quarrel, and smiled to herself. These ridiculous twins! Alaine proclaiming her hour's seniority over Ab, Ab declaring he had to be father and mother to his sister! They were absurd, they were incredible; but they were a little sweet and pathetic, too!

"Well, Ab," she told him, "there seems only one thing to do. Since neither you nor Mac will ask Ned about this girl, I'll do it myself. Certainly if he is supporting another woman—the mother of his child—he mustn't marry Alaine."

"Do you think he'll admit it? He'll just lie to you; put you off with some story, and you'll believe in him stronger than ever."

Brenda stiffened. "You forget that my profession is founded on psychology. Ab, I think I can tell when I'm listening to the truth—or otherwise!"

"Maybe you can," he muttered. "Maybe you can; but I'm here to tell you I'm going to keep right on fighting Ned Barrow away from Alaine, no matter what he tells you."

"They finished the drive in comparative silence. The hills which had looked so blue from a distance were scrubby and uninteresting at close sight. Brenda returned to the house angry and nerve for having offered Barrow her help, angry at him for what Ab was pleased to refer to as "his past life," most of all angry at Mac for knowing that she had interfered in the matter."

The next afternoon she consulted Hugh Saltus about it. He was standing before his desk, his busy pencil doing fascinating things which ordinarily would have occupied all Brenda's attention. His mouth looked a little more bitter than usual, his eyes less mirthful. Evidently the world was not behaving itself as it should so far as the artist was concerned.

"So there it is," the girl finished. "I do think it would make a grand marriage for her—Judge Harper says that's crazy, but at all their extra capital into the farm and that they spend most of their income on plants and fertilizer for it. But of course if this young Barrow is actually supporting another woman—"

"At least it's to his credit that he's supporting her!"

"Hugh, that's a very unethical view for you to take of the matter," she said severely. "Either she has a legal claim on him, or she hasn't. If she has, then he shouldn't marry her. If she hasn't, then he shouldn't be blamed for what may simply be charity. And anyway, you're not being the least help to me. What shall I do about it all?"

Continued tomorrow

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS
Where to Find Them on the Dial:
KXN, 1160, Portland; KFI, 640, Los Angeles; KLA, 174, Spokane; KGO, 790, San Francisco; KGW, 530, Portland; KJR, 970, Seattle; KXN, 1050, Los Angeles; KOA, 830, Denver; KOIN, 940, Portland; KOMO, 620, Seattle; KPO, 630, San Francisco; KNL, 1130, Salt Lake.

Monday

8:00—Drama, KGO, KEX, KJR, Radio Theater, KSL, KNX, KOIN, Quiz Prog., KPO, KGW, KEX, 8:30—Talk by Paul V. McNutt, KGO, KJR, KEX; Templeton Time, KPO, KGW, KFI.
9:00—Gallant American Women, KGO, KJR, KEX; Lombardo's Orch., KSL, KNX, KOIN; Hour, KPO, KGW, KFI.
9:30—Sensations and Swing, KPO, FFI, KGW; Blondie, KNX, KSL, KOIN.
7:00—Fred Waring, KPO, KGW, KFI; Amos and Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Black Velvet, KGO.
7:15—Stockley's Orch., KOW, KFI; Lanny Ross, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Tune Termites, KPO, News, KFI.
7:30—True or False, KGO, KEX, KJR; Smoking Time, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Opera Series, KPO, KFI, KOW.
8:00—Dorsey's Orch., KGO; Passing Parade, KGO; Tune Up Time, KNX, KSL, KOIN.
8:30—Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KFI; Kent's Orch., KEX, KJR; Himber's Orch., KSL.
9:00—Little of Hollywood, KEX, KJR; Paul Sullivan, KSL, KNX.

KOIN: Ebers' Orch., KPO, KFI, 9:30—University Explorer, KGO; Duffley's Orch., KNX, KSL; Molina's Orch., KPO, KFI, KOW; News, KJR, 10:00—Vocalist, KSL; Reporter, KPO, KFI, KOW; Radio Forum, KGO, KJL.
10:30—Music by Woodbury, KPO, KGW, KFI; Goodman's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR.
11:00—Draper's Orch., KPO; This Moving World, KEX; Noble's Orch., KOIN, KSL; News, KGO, KFI, KGW, KXN.

Tuesday

8:00—Cavalade of America, KPO, KFI, KOW; Tune and Tempo, KGO, KEX, KJR; Ross and Yeo, KOIN.
8:30—Aurand's Orch., KPO, KNX, Drama, KGO, KEX, KJR; Fluber McGee, KPO, KFI, KOW.
9:00—Bob Hope, KPO, KGW, KFI; Shield's Revue, KGO, KEX, KJR; Miller's Orch., KOIN, KNX, KSL.
9:30—Easy Aces, KJR, KEX; Dog House, KPO, KFI, KGW.
7:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KOW; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR, 7:15—Lanny Ross, KSL, KNX, KOIN; Cummins' Orch., KGO; Exposition Speaks, KPO, News, KFI.
7:30—Johnny Freeman's, KPO, KFI, KOW; Aldrich Family, KGO, KEX, KJR; Big Brown, KOIN, KNX, KSL.
8:00—We, the People, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Byrne's Orch., KPO, KGW, KFI; Judy Deane, KGO.
8:30—Battle of the Sexes, KPO, KGW, KFI; Professor Quiz, KNX, KOIN, KSL.
9:00—Paul Sullivan, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Himber's Orch., KPO.

9:30—Molina's Orch., KOW, KFI; Nichols' Orch., KNX.
10:00—Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW, 10:30—Arnslett's Orch., KGO, KEX; Pastor's Orch., KSL, KNX, KOIN.
11:00—Draper's Orch., KPO; This Moving World, KEX; Noble's Orch., KSL, KOIN; News, KOW, KNX.

STATELY BRUNETTE IS ROSE QUEEN SELECTION

Portland, May 20.—(AP)—A stately brunette of 17, Virginia Rothenberg, Jefferson high school, joined the royalty of Rosaria Saturday. She was selected from nine candidates to rule over the 1940 Portland rose festival.

Census Shrinks

Hoquiam, Wash., May 20.—(AP)—preliminary census figures released today gave Aberdeen a population of 18,614 and Hoquiam 10,810, a substantial drop in both cities. Hoquiam census in 1930 was 12,766, Aberdeen, 21,723.

Pioneer Daughter Dies

Portland, May 20.—(AP)—Edith L. Covert, 68, whose father was the third white child born in the Oregon territory, died Saturday. She was the daughter of M. C. Athey, Oregon City. She formerly served as Portland public school music supervisor.

WHEAT LOAN RATE AVERAGE HIGHER

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—Secretary Wallace announced today that the wheat loan rate on the 1940 crop would average 64 cents a bushel as against an average rate of 63 cents last year. The announcement followed a week in which wheat prices

dropped as much as 34 cents a bushel. Agriculture department officials said the average loan rate of 64 cents together with parity payments of 19 cents assured wheat farmers cooperating in the federal crop control program of a return of at least 83 cents a bushel on the farm, regardless of market prices.

As Plain As—

Huntington, N. Y., May 20.—(AP)—Because he bit his wife on the nose, Angelo Fuscaldo must spend six months in jail, magistrate Bertha Rembaugh ruled.

Mrs. Fuscaldo appeared in court with a bandaged nose. **Weather**
Northern California: Fair tonight and Tuesday but mostly cloudy or foggy on coast; not quite so warm in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys Tuesday; moderate northwest wind off coast.
Portland, May 20.—(AP)—Hannes Miettinen, 48, of Portland, arrested on a drunkenness charge Saturday night, hanged himself in a jail cell with his own belt, Jailer H. Ragan disclosed Sunday.

By JOHN HIX

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

1/2-OUNCE STEAM ENGINE -- BUILT IN 1849 BY CYRUS CHAMBERS, 16, FROM HIS MOTHER'S GOLD AND SILVER TABLEWARE. IT RUNS AT 9000 R.P.M. - Franklin Institute Phila., Pa. -

ADD THE FIGURES 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0 TO EQUAL JUST 1 -- Answer tomorrow --

RYAN AND CASCADE -- Iowa baseball team, played 45 INNINGS IN 3 GAMES, 2 SEASONS, AND ENDED UP TIED! (Final scores were 1-1, 5-5, 2-2)

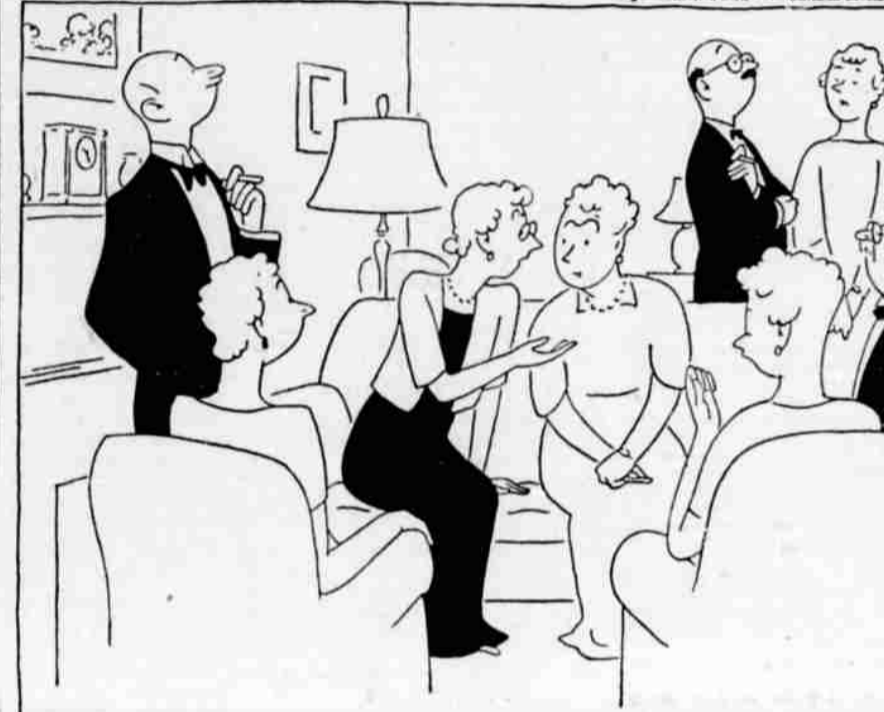
HE HOLDS 5 UNIVERSITY DEGREES...

THE HOBBY!

DR. CARROLL SIBLEY, Los Angeles, ONLY BOY SCOUT EVER TO WIN 105 OUT OF 106 POSSIBLE MERIT BADGES, STILL FOLLOWS EACH SUBJECT AS A HOBBY!

THE WORLD AT ITS WORST

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



5-21 (Released by The Bill Syndicate, Inc.)

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Jerry's Fatal Mistake!



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Party!



THE NEBBS—What's the Answer?



ASHURST TO RACE ATTY. VANDENBERG

Klamath Falls, May 20.—(AP) Circuit Judge Edward B. Ashurst of Klamath Falls whose campaign was marked by old time political color will oppose David R. Vandenberg, Klamath Falls, attorney, for the 13th judicial post at the November election.

Ashurst and Vandenberg were the top candidates in a five-man contest in Friday's non-partisan election.

SOCE STUDENT BODY SELECTS OFFICERS

Southern Oregon College of Education, Ashland, May 20.—(Special)—At the annual election of student body officers on Friday, the following were elected to take office in September of this year: President, Charles Sturgill of Ashland; vice president, Ralph Lamb of Eagle Point; secretary, Corinne Harwood of Medford; treasurer, Leslie Segsworth of Ashland; pep promoter, Harold Grow of Eagle Point; social chairman, Kenton Robbins of Ashland; and editor of the Siskiyou, Harold Baughman of Ashland.

Coming time for 100 Late to Circulate Ad is 1.30 p. m.

Lineman Killed

Portland, May 20.—(AP)—James Dunn, 50, strung up a private telephone line on Sauvie Island Sunday, was killed in a 32-foot tumble from a pole.