

# Casual Slaughters

By VIRGINIA HANSON

Mimi must have been lying down for the living room and library were unattended. So presently, feeling myself an unwelcome guest, I went up to my room and put my things back in my chest.

## Chapter 32

### The Whole Truth

THE man on guard closed the door and stayed outside the barred room. He may have been listening, but I don't think Julia thought of that, or would have cared if she had. She went straight to Jeff and put both her hands in his.

"We'll get you out of this," she said in the voice you would use to a frightened child. "It isn't that Dan thinks you did it; he just has to take some action. It's the second murder and they haven't got anywhere with the first yet."

"It's worse than that," he said through stiff lips. "They found a blood-stained towel in my laundry hamper. Dan asked me to explain it, but how could I? I don't know how it got there."

Julia's eyes glazed. "Someone's trying to frame you. Any idea who?"

"Don't you suppose I'd tell if I knew?" he asked wearily. "Who gave her that black eye? I didn't."

She drew a deep breath, and her face warmed almost to a smile.

"I knew you didn't," she said. I looked away from them, because it wasn't decent to see their defenseless eyes. But I had learned something. It was the first time I had seen Jeff with the barriers down.

They stayed down only an instant. Suddenly he freed his hands from hers and backed a way, fairly bristling with his barbed-wire defenses. I don't think it was anything she said or did; it was just reaction from that moment of forgetfulness.

"How would it be," Julia began bravely, "if we sat down and talked it over? Maybe we could think of something..."

"There's no place to sit except one chair and the bed," he said churlishly. "And there's nothing to talk over. If you've come here to pump me you can get out. He glanced at Julia's hurt, bewildered eyes and seemed to grow angrier. He was like a man fighting his own shadow.

"You've probably heard," he went on, with a cold look at me, "that my wife was afraid to occupy a room with me. You can believe that or not, just as you please. It's a matter of indifference to me. I married her. I don't know who killed her. I don't know who killed Ivan. And you can pump until you're black in the face and still go back and tell Dan that's all you found out."

Julia stamped her foot.

"I did not come here to find out things for Dan," she stormed. "I came here to help you, but I don't know why. Both of us I've already lied myself blind, and so has Kay."

She stopped, appalled at what she had said.

"Then you'd better tell the truth," he said. "When I need lies told for me I'll let you know."

He went to the door and opened it, held it until we had passed through.

Head high, Julia marched down the corridor and out of the hospital, but as soon as we were in the car she gave way to a storm of tears. I took the wheel and drove aimlessly for a while, waiting for her to get control of herself.

**Cold Fury**

"IF ONLY Adam were here," I said finally, out of the depths of my thoughts. "Julia, he was right. Jeff was right. We'd better tell your father the truth."

"Oh, no, Kay, you don't mean that—not with Dan already thinking Jeff killed her!"

"But the only way we can do anything to help Jeff if he isn't the murderer is to find out who is. And how can we expect to arrive at the truth until we all pool our knowledge?"

"But don't you see—all we've withheld is just what will make it look blacker for Jeff. And I know he didn't do it!"

"Oh, no, that isn't all. How about Mimi—you said it was her car that night at the barge. We haven't told that."

"I never said that," she said quickly, desperately. "You're imagining things."

So that was the way of it. I fell silent, thinking, until we drew up once more at the colonel's quarters. Then, before I got out, I gave her my considered decision.

"I'm sorry, Julia, if Adam were here I'd go to him with it. Since he isn't it will have to be your father."

"You mean—you're going to tell him everything?"

She looked stunned, as if her last friend had deserted her, and I had to steel myself against sympathy.

"Everything," I said firmly. "It's different now. Sandra's death—and the way she was killed—there's no use talking, Julia, someone around here isn't human. And every lie we tell is in that creature's service. I'm not going to take the responsibility."

"I see," she said.

Her tears were dry, and there was cold fury in her voice. She got out of the car and walked, without a backward glance, into the house and up the stairs to her room.

I had to see the colonel at four. I followed her into the house.

To be continued

## On the Radio Chains

Where to Find Them on the Dial

KEX, 1160, Portland; KFI, 640, Los Angeles; KGA, 1470, Spokane; KGO, 750, San Francisco; KGW, 520, Portland; KBC, 970, Seattle; KNX, 1050, Los Angeles; KOA, 430, Denver; KOIN, 940, Portland; KOMO 926 Seattle; KPO, 630, San Francisco; KSL, 1130, Salt Lake

Wednesday

5:00—Summer Show, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Green Hornet, KGO, KEX, KJR; Organist, KGW; Introducing, KPO.

5:30—Shield's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Ricardo, KPO; Lewiston Stadium Concert, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

6:00—Quartet, KGO; Kysar's Orch., KPO, KFI, KGW; News, KGA, KEX; Miller's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN.

6:15—Public Affairs, KNX, KOIN; Ink Spots, KEX; News, KGO; Home Builders, KSL.

6:30—War News, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Easy Aces, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR.

6:45—Genevieve Brown, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Tracer of Lost Persons, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR.

7:00—Joy's Orch., KGO, KGA, KEX; Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Hollywood Playhouse, KPO, KFI, KGW.

7:30—Metropolitan Airport, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR; Plantation Party, KPO, KFI, KGW; Dr. Christian, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

8:00—Hour of Smiles, KPO, KGW; Mr. Meek, KNX, KSL, KOIN; News, KGO, KEX, KJR.

8:30—Mr. District Attorney, KPO, KFI, KGW; Question Bee, KNX, KSL.

KOIN: Donahue's Orch., KGO; Bambi, KEX.

9:00—Paul Sullivan, KNX, KSL; KOIN; Martin's Orch., KPO.

9:30—Stanford U., KPO, KGW; Public Affairs, KNX; Kent's Orch., KSL; Baker Theater Players, KOIN.

10:00—News, KPO, KFI, KGW; Juggan's Orch., KNX, KSL.

10:30—Garber's Orch., KNX, KOIN; Primi, Jr., Orch., KPO, KGW; Duchin's Orch., KGA, KEX, KJR.

11:00—Fitzpatrick's Orch., KSL, KOIN; Nottingham's Orch., KPO; Organist, KEX, KGA; Knox Manning, KNX; News, KGO, KGW; Tropical Moods, KJR.

Thursday

5:00—Singing and Swinging, KGO, KGA, KEX; Music Hall, KPO, KFI, KGW; Major Bowes, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

5:30—Voice of Camille, KGO; Concert Orch., KEX, KJR.

6:00—Miller's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Crosby's Orch., KPO, KFI, KGW.

6:15—Toronto Symphony, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR; Public Affairs, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

6:30—War News, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Park Concert, KPO, KGW.

7:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KGW; Our America, KGO, KJR.

7:30—Travelogue, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR; Ask-It-Baker, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Ted Lewis, KPO, KFI, KGW.

8:00—Strange As It Seems, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Aldrich Family, KPO, KFI, KGW; Sports, KGO; News, KEX, KJR.

8:30—Symphony Hour, KPO, KFI.

## 15 FINISH COURSE AT ASHLAND SOCC

Southern Oregon College of Education, Ashland, July 31.—(Sp.)—Fifteen students completed the teacher education course at the Southern Oregon College of Education July 19. They are Leland E. Ammerman, Kent Norman Ashcraft, Kathryn Bergstrom, Ralph N. Brickey,

Mary Esther Davis, Escoc Fuller and Helen M. Thomas, all of Ashland; Alma F. Hitt, Roberta G. Ivanhoe, Mareta Reynolds and Virginia Rhoda Stout, all of Medford; Jo Norien Carlson of Reedsport, Darrell E. Davis of Myrtle Creek, Robert L. Dusenberry of Cottage Grove and Jack R. Kemnitz of Portland.

Vancouver, Wash., July 31.—(P)—A contract to construct a six-story county courthouse for Clark county was awarded the Ross Hammond, Portland, company yesterday on a \$307,000 bid.

## M'NARY ACCEPTANCE CHANGED TO AUG. 27

Portland, July 31. (P)—Ralph Cake, Republican national committeeman, said he had been advised today that Senator McNary had moved his vice-presidential acceptance from August 28 to August 27. No details of the reported change in the Salem fairgrounds event were given.

## 183 KARAT DIAMOND IS FOUND IN BRAZIL

Rio de Janeiro, July 31.—(U.P.)—The newspaper Anote today reported the discovery of a 183-karat white diamond valued at \$100,000.

The diamond was said to have been discovered by Bermudez Affonso Alves at Fatos in the state of Minas Geraes, a rich diamond producing area in the southwest of Brazil.

**Occupational Hazard?**  
San Francisco, July 31.—(P)—Guido Grasso, beauty parlor operator, brushed his hair, and almost scalped himself. A razor blade had fallen from a shelf and lodged in the brush. Eight stitches were required.

## STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

by JOHN HIX



**SWASTIKA ORIGIN**  
The sign of the cross has been used as a religious symbol since the dawn of civilization, long before Christianity adopted it. Strange as it seems, the swastika, one form of the cross, was used by long-forgotten tribes of American Indians, Chin-ese, Greeks and innumerable other peoples.

Significant today as the emblem of Germany's National Socialist party, the swastika dexter (right-handed) was adopted in 1898 by the Benedictine monastery at Lambach-on-Traun, Bavaria, where Adolf Hitler was schooled for two years as a boy.

**TOMORROW: From Cripple to Champion!**

## REST

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



8-1 (Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

## TAILSPIN TOMMY—Sinister Darkness!



1-31-40

## BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Another Blow!



THE NEBBS—Good Bye



## By HAL FORREST



By EDWIN ALGER



By BOL HESS



## MERRILL POPULATION TREBLED IN DECADE

Klamath Falls, July 31.—(P)—The town of Merrill in southern Klamath county has trebled its population in the last 10 years, census figures showed today. The 1940 total is 945. Other totals are: Bonanza, 321; Malin, 573, and Chiloquin, 740.

## PASSENGER CAR SALES AHEAD OF LAST YEAR

Detroit, July 31.—(P)—R. L. Polk & Company reported today that a tabulation of new passenger car registrations just completed shows that 1,814,814 units were sold during the first six months of 1940. In the period of 1939 the total was 1,409,102.