

# Casual Slaughters

By VIRGINIA HANSON

YESTERDAY, Mimi met Colonel Pennant and Julia at a sales clerk in New York. When she lost her job the Colonel asked her to marry him. She feels her intense love for him is not reciprocated and is intensely jealous.

Chapter 35

## Bunnie Of Contradictions

"JEFF grew quite attached to both Dan and me," Mimi went on. "He idolizes Dan. His own father turned against him toward the last—I blame Sandra for that. Too—and Jeff had to transfer his affections. And because I was Dan's wife, I came in for my share. He wasn't in love with me—that's just silly. If I'd even thought of such a thing I'd never have let him take me out when Julia was away at school. But I can see now what construction Sandra's evil little mind probably put on it at once. She was like that, Kay. I was a long time finding it out; but I'm telling you now what I know to be the truth.

"Late that summer, about the last week of her visit, there was a hop. Jeff got a date for Sandra, and he was taking Julia. But at the last minute Julia went to bed with a headache, so Jeff persuaded me to go in her place.

"We went in our car, the four of us, but after the hop Sandra and her Kaydet decided to walk home. I thought they wanted to do a little necking. So Jeff and I drove home alone, and as it was only a short walk back to barracks, and he had plenty of time, I suggested that he come in and wait until they arrived so he could walk back with his friend.

"Dan had not waited up, and the fact that he hadn't made me feel pretty low in my mind. I was always expecting him to treat me like a bride and being disappointed when he didn't. This particular night I was feeling depressed anyway. I didn't really have much fun at those kid parties, and I would far rather have stayed at home with Dan, if he hadn't urged me to go.

"Jeff was always so sweet and understanding and so d d n l y, without intending to, I was telling him my troubles, just as if he were my kid brother. He put his arm around me and told me he was sure Dan was crazy about me—that sort of thing, trying to comfort me.

"I was crying on his shoulder when Sandra came in. She was always a puzzle. I didn't hear a sound, just looked up and saw her standing in the archway from the hall, looking at us.

"Mimi got up and began to walk around the room again. Her hands were clenched and her face was cold and angry. I waited, and after a moment she went on.

"She didn't say much, but it was perfectly plain what she was thinking. The nastiest expression came into her eyes, an expression of satisfaction, like a cat that has just finished a mouse. I don't suppose Jeff got it, but I did. She was pleased. Kay. She had something on us. I realized, with an awful sinking sensation, that she wouldn't hesitate to use it.

"Her Kaydet had left her at the door and gone back to barracks. Jeff followed as quickly as he could. I started to explain to Sandra, knowing it was useless, and she interrupted me.

"So upright!"

"YOU don't need to think up a story for me," she said with a nasty little smile. "I probably won't tell Dan. And then, humming insolently to herself, she went up to her room."

"What did you do?"

"What could I do? I've wished a thousand times that I had gone straight to Dan with it. But Kay, I'm an awful coward where he's concerned. Suppose he hadn't believed me? Suppose he had listened to Sandra instead? I tell you, he would never hear a word against that girl. She could be so plausible; and she could wind men around her finger like—like worms!"

"I can see that she might have made it look pretty ugly, if she'd wanted to."

"Ugly! If Dan were even to suspect me of such a thing I don't believe I could bear it. He's so—so upright, so honest! Oh, I know I don't always act as though I thought so, but in my heart I know. Don't you see, that's why he never would be jealous of me, wouldn't tolerate my jealousy. He was really paying me a compliment. I realized it when I began thinking it over, after this came up."

"I sat there studying her, trying to understand this bundle of contradictions, this woman tortured by a sense of inadequacy, rebelling occasionally against her own conception of her husband as a sort of God, incorruptible, impervious to human frailties, a God who filled her life with kindness but no warmth. And I began to feel a faint stirring of resentment toward that upright, honorable man."

she had succeeded in being asked again and again to West Point during Julia's absence. And she had worked on Jeff.

"I don't doubt she made Jeff think I was in love with him," she said indignantly. "And there was nothing he could do about it. He avoided me as if I had smallpox. He never came to our house any more except to see Sandra, and as she got in her work he went more and more to New York. You can see how he would feel. He couldn't go on and marry Julia, he brought into closer contact than before with me, the wife of his friend and superior officer. He would have been scared to death of the whole situation."

"Then you don't think she openly blackmailed him into marrying her?" I mean, by threatening to go to Colonel Pennant?"

"I've no way of knowing; but I think she was clever enough to play on Jeff's conscience, and to make him think she was saving him from something pretty awful. He changed—you've no idea how a changed. Kay. And I've thought, or tried to think, that he really did love Sandra."

"We were back again to Jeff, who hadn't loved Sandra. I knew that now, after seeing him for that one defenseless moment with Julia in the prison ward. And all that I learned only served for worse to discriminate him. He'd had reason to hate Sandra, too."

I said what I could to Mimi, and it was little enough. I did not recount the case I had made out against Jeff, for I could see that she had enough on her mind without that. And presently, looking weary but a little more at peace with herself, she went to her room to dress for dinner.

Coldly Aloof

GERALD BEAUFORT was with the colonel when I went down. "You're staying here tonight?" he asked me crisply. "That's good." He grinned suddenly, with a return to his former manner. "I promised Adam to look after you, but I can't say I've been a howling success. I'll be glad to delegate the responsibility."

"You're very flattering," "That's me," he said cheerfully. "Fringy the fearless flatterer they call me."

I caught my breath, but he did not seem to know what he had said. He turned back toward Colonel Pennant.

"It's very kind of you and Mrs. Pennant to ask me to stay to dinner, but you see how it is, sir. I'll be at your office the first thing in the morning."

I left him taking his departure and went on into the living room. Fringy! Then he was an impostor. He had known that man at the inn. I would ask Julia at dinner if she didn't remember the man calling him that.

But Julia sent word by Mimi that she had a headache and would not come down.

There was no opportunity for me to bring up the subject of Gerald during the meal, for Colonel Pennant took the conversational reins into his own hands and conducted a tour. Murder and kindred subjects were, I quickly saw, as taboo a naughty stories at a missionary meeting.

I divided my attention between the dinner, for which I had no appetite, and the conversational display in which I could summon no interest. But my thoughts dwelt unhappily on Julia and the manner in which I had betrayed her.

As soon as dinner was over I asked Mimi to find out if Julia would see me. I followed her upstairs and waited in the hall until Mimi came out, looking depressed and sorry.

"She doesn't feel well enough to talk," she said apologetically. "But I think she'll be all right in the morning, Kay. It's probably better just to leave her alone, don't you think so?"

I went to my room and looked indecisively at my overnight case, packed and ready to travel. If I mentioned going back to the club now there would be no end of a stir.

I thought of Gerald again and went out of my room and down the stairs.

Colonel Pennant was in the library. He rose as I entered. Perhaps it was a trick of the light from the green-shaded desk lamp; perhaps Mimi's story had colored my view of him; perhaps he was only tired. Whatever the cause, he seemed less human, grimmer, colder.

"I'm sorry Julia is so rude," he said. "She's behaving like a spoiled child. I've told her there's no reason for her to resent your telling what you knew and no occasion for her to rush to Jeff's defense. If he is acquitted I shall be the first to rejoice."

I felt chilled. "You're going to charge him with murder, then?" "Naturally. The evidence all points to him."

"But what motive?" I asked desperately. "The most sordid motive in the world. I'm afraid, Greed. Sandra was alone in the world—she will—she would—she'll do anything."

## On the Radio Chains

STATIONS Where to find them on the Dial: KEX, 1160, Portland; KFI, 640, Los Angeles; KGA, 1670 Spokane; KGO, 790, San Francisco; KJW, 100, Portland; KJL, 970, Seattle; KXN, 1050, Los Angeles; KGA, 630, Denver; KOIN, 940, Portland; KOMO, 926 Seattle; KPO, 636 San Francisco; KSL, 1130, Salt Lake.

Sunday 8:00—Symphony Hour, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Manhattan Merry-Go-Round, KPO, KOW; Musical Heritage, KFI, KJR. 9:30—Familiar Music, KPO, KOW; Organist, KFI, KEX, KJR. 10:00—Take It or Leave It, KSL, KOIN; Goodwill Hour, KGO, KGA, KEX; Hour of Charm, KPO, KOW; Art Baker, KXN. 10:30—Carnival, KPO, KOW; Public Affairs, KNX, KSL, KOIN. 11:00—Chansonette, KGO, KEX; Regal Amblings, KPO; Musical Game, KNX, KOIN; Gary's Orch., KFI, KOW; News, KSL. 11:30—James' Orch., KPO, KOW; Kenney's Orch., KGO, KJR; Jurgen's Orch., KNX, KOIN; Health, KGA; Leon F. Drews, KOIN; Rendezvous With Music, KSL. 12:00—Busse's Orch., KOIN; H. V. Kallenborn, KPO, KFI, KOW; News, KGO, KGA; Park Concert, KNX; Sunday Evening Service, KSL. 1:30—Dance Orch., KOIN; Black Velvet, KPO; Hawkins' Orch., KFI, KOW; Sports, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR. 2:00—Night Editor, KPO, KOW; Garber's Orch., KNX; Shelton's

Orch., KGO, KJR; Dr. Brock, Kex; Song Souvenir, KOIN; Choral Music, KSL. 9:30—Clara's Orch., KPO, KOW; Sanctuary, KGO, KEX; Agular's Orch., KNX, KOIN; News, KJR; String Ensemble, KSL. 10:00—News, KPO, KFI, KOW; Harpa's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Jurgen's Orch., KNX; Temple Square, KSL. 10:30—Martin's Orch., KGO, KGA; Busse's Orch., KNX, KOIN; Family Altar Hour, KEX; Hollywood Temple, KJR. 11:00—Knox Manning, KNX; News, KGO; Nottingham's Orch., KPO, KOW; organist, KGA, KEX; Eunice's Orch., KOIN; Master Works, KSL. Monday 5:00—Forecast, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Dr. I. Q., KPO, KFI, KOW; Green Hornet, KGO, KEX, KJR. 5:30—Martin's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX. 6:00—News, KEX; Variety Program, KPO, KOW; Ricardo, KGO; Lombardo's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Harmony Highway, KGA. 6:30—Burns and Allen, KPO, KFI, KOW; Blondie, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Reading Adventures, KGO, KGA, KEX. 7:00—Amos and Andy, KGO, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KOW; Trio, KGO, KGA. 7:30—Washington Merry-Go-Round, KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR; Where and When, KPO, KOW; Pipe Smoking Time, KNX, KSL, KOIN. 8:00—Show Boat, KPO, KFI, KOW; Passing Parade, KGO; Barnett's Orch., KOIN.

8:30—Hawthorne House, KPO, KOW; King's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Primi, Jr., Orch., KEX, KJR. 9:00—Paul Sullivan, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Little Old Hollywood, KEX, KGA; Today's Classics, KPO, KOW. 9:15—Sports, KGO; Noble's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN. 9:30—Clara's Orch., KGO, KGA, KEX; Marcelino's Orch., KNX, KOIN; News, KJR. 10:00—News, KPO, KFI, KOW; Jurgen's Orch., KNX, KSL; Martin's Orch., KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR. 10:30—Duchin's Orch., KGO, KGA, KEX, KJR; Sports, KPO; Camera Club, KNX, KSL, KOIN. 11:00—Biltmore Boys, KPO; Organist, KGA, KEX; Songs, KSL, KOIN; News, KGO; Knox Manning, KNX.

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## Hello Girl Leaps From Hotel Roof

Los Angeles, Aug. 3.—(AP)—Dorothy Sanner, 35, telephone operator from Waunastota, Wis., leaped to her death today from the roof of a four-story downtown hotel. A passerby said he saw her poised on the roof edge and he shouted, "Don't jump," but she stepped off and crashed to the sidewalk. A maid at the hotel said the woman had complained of feeling ill. Ninety percent of the urban population of Arizona is concentrated in 20 cities.

## JACKSON DAV FOR MIGHTY DEFENSE

Jackson county chapter of the Disabled American Veterans of the World war went on record at its meeting in the armory Friday night as favoring a United States army of at least a million men, enough ships, airplanes,

fast tanks and mechanized units for all defense purposes and enlistment, by conscription if necessary, of all American research scientists to invent, devise, develop and build the greatest war machine the world has ever known.

This stand by the D.A.V. was recommended in a formal talk by Floyd K. Dover of Rogue River, state commander. The chapter endorsed his recommendations without qualification. It was announced also that the auxiliary is not in ses-

sion during the summer it was thought the women also would endorse this policy.

Seven new members were initiated and welcomed into the D. A. V. by the state commander.

McKenzie Bridge, Ore., Aug. 3.—(AP)—The McKenzie Lumber company sawmill, three miles west of here, burned to the ground with an estimated loss of \$30,000 in an early morning fire today. The plant was operated by E. P. Belknap.

## STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

by JOHN HIX



LYRA FERGUSON, Reeds, Mo., HELD 45 JOBS IN 48 WEEKS-- EACH IN A DIFFERENT LINE OF WORK AND IN A DIFFERENT STATE!



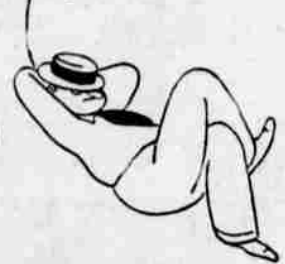
CRUSTACEANS-- HAVE A 6TH SENSE-- IT HELPS THEM TO MAINTAIN BALANCE IN SWIMMING

## JOB-GETTER

From Jan. 1, 1939, to Dec. 25, 1939, Miss Lyra Ferguson made an amazing tour of the United States, alone, to prove that people can get jobs if they want them. In 48 weeks she visited 48 states and averaged nearly a job a week, working at 45 different occupations. Once she stayed 12 days on a lighthouse off Maine, due to bad weather, and another time worked only one day. Among her jobs she made salad, washed turnips, picked chickens, gathered maple sugar, milked cows, cooked at a dude ranch, packed salmon, booked a dance team and sewed with a family of New Mexican Indians. Monday: Proxy President.

## PICNIC COMFORT

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



STRETCHES HIMSELF OUT IN THE SHADE, AFTER GOOD PICNIC. MURMURING, THIS IS THE LIFE

MOVING SUN GETS IN HIS EYES. PUTS HAT OVER FACE, BUT IS SOON MUCH TOO HOT BECAUSE OF BEING OUT OF THE SHADE

MOVES, SOON BECOMING AWARE THAT HE IS LYING ON A SHARP ROCK WHICH SEEMS TO BE WORKING HIS WAY THROUGH HIS BACK



MOVES TO GRASSY SPOT BUT GRASSES TICKLE HIM, MAKING HIM THINK SPIDERS ARE CRAWLING DOWN HIS NECK

MOVES AGAIN AND FINDS ANTS REALLY ARE CRAWLING UP HIS LEG, ON ACCOUNT OF HIS SAT DOWN NEAR AN ANT HILL

GETS UP AND TAKES A BRISK WALK

## TAILSPIN TOMMY—Count Castroni Is Curious!

DEATH HAS STRUCK AT THE CLIPPER PLANE!... LORD JOHN-SMYTHE TWEEDLY HAS BEEN MYSTERIOUSLY SLAIN! TOMMY, INVESTIGATING, FOUND A LIPSTICK MONOGRAMMED WITH THE INITIALS "B. L." ON THE DEAD MAN'S LAP.



PARDON! WHAT WAS IT YOU JUST PICKED UP FROM LORD TWEEDLY'S CHAIR, CAPTAIN TOMKINS?



AH! BUT ARE YOU NOT "STASIKEN," CAPTAIN TOMKINS? TO ME IT APPEARED TO BE... A LIP-STICK!



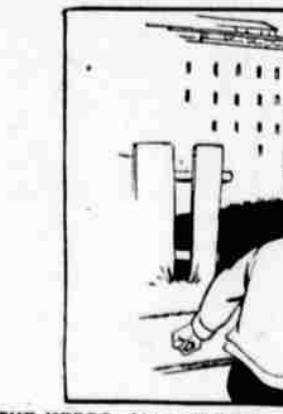
WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT ON AGAIN IN THE PLEASANT THE STEWARDESS WAS STANDING BESIDE LORD TWEEDLY'S CHAIR...



ARE YOU TRYING TO INSINUATE THAT MISS BARNES KILLED LORD TWEEDLY?



## BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Modest Man?



GEE, HERE'S A FELLOW WHO CERTAINLY BELIEVES IN ADVERTISING!

HERE'S ANOTHER! WONDER WHAT THE HECK CLANCY DOES?

STILL ANOTHER! WELL, FOR GOSH SAKES!

NO WERE GOING TO FLY ALONG-- MAYBE WE CAN FIND A PLACE WHERE THE CLERK AT LEAST HAS A KIND AND CHEERY WORD FOR THE GUESTS.

WHERE HE WON'T SEEM SO HAPPY WHEN HE TELLS YOU HE'S GOT NO ROOM-- I'LL BET THAT CLERK YOU GOT GETS GOOSE PIMPLES WHEN HE HEARS A KID LAUGH

## THE NEBBS—Much Obligated



Use Mail Tribune want ads.

## THE GRANGE

Talent Grange.

Talent Grange met in regular session August 1, with visitors present from Phoenix Grange. The fair to be held at Bellview, September 21 and 22 was discussed and the program outlined. Various committees also reported on what had been accomplished up to date and work yet to be done.

Mrs. Lena Luchterhand had charge of the program for the evening which centered around early Oregon history, particu-

larly that pertaining to southern Oregon and Jackson county. Named to act on the hospitality committee for next meeting are Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Galatin, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Johnson and Mrs. R. Hensel.

## Body Recovered

Baker, Ore., Aug. 3.—(AP)—The body of Raymond Dick Murden of Burns was recovered on Thursday afternoon from Unity reservoir 82 days after a fishing accident that cost the lives of Murden and his two companions, David Woodfin and Jack Ray of Burns.