

# Casual Slaughters

By VIRGINIA HANSON

YESTERDAY: Kay is knocked unconscious and awakes in the hospital to find Adam by her side. He kneels and begs her to leave her again. Kay learns that Sandra's black eye was achieved by a copper penny bound on with a cloth soaked in vinegar.

## Chapter 42 Visitors

Woke about the middle of the afternoon feeling as if my head were a vast unfinished building from which a thousand hammering workmen had just taken their unmerciful departure. I stirred a little on my pillow. The head was sore, definitely. But that heavenly vacancy was reassuring.

Mimi and Julia arrived about four bearing flowers and a basket of fruit that should have gone to the gangplank of the Normandie. I wondered if it was for ammunition.

"I'm not proud of myself," Julia said abruptly. She looked as if she had not slept, but her smudged eyes shone like the ones in her mother's picture. "I never dreamed you'd go back to the club. I was so wrapped up in myself I couldn't spare a thought for how you must feel. And I owe you everything." A tear overflowed one eye and she dashed it impatiently away. "Jeff told me the whole thing. I'm so happy—her voice broke, so she tried again. "I'm so happy—"

Her face screwed up and a Niagara of tears cascaded down her cheeks.

"Oh hell!" she muttered. "I'll wait in the car."  
Mopping her face, she ducked out of the room.

I looked desperately to the four corners of the room, hoping that someone—nurse, doctor—anyone, would save me from this moment alone with Mimi. It wasn't fair, after last night's shock. I ought to be protected from this sort of thing—

But no one came; and presently, when she had finished arranging a vase of flowers and brought it to the bedside table, I had to face her.

I was going to ask her to forgive me, but what I saw stopped me. Her eyes looked dazzled, and she was all warm and light as if the sun were shining on her. She set the vase of flowers down and took my hand. She felt warm and so full of happiness that she was radio-active with it.

"Kay, I was wrong about Dan," she said in a hushed, marveling voice. "Last night I found I could tell him everything. It must have been that talking to you had made it easier. And Kay, he was wonderful, even when I confessed how jealous I've been. He said it was all his fault, and he told me something he would never mention before. About how he felt when his first wife died—how he blamed himself, and swore he would never marry again. But I needed him; and he loved me—I believe that now. Only—he couldn't forget that he was responsible for the death of Julia's mother. At least that's the way he looks at it. And he couldn't bear the thought of anything happening to you. Can you understand what a difference it makes, knowing that?"

I made some meaningless answer which I'm sure she did not hear. She was as unapproachable as a valuable pearl wrapped around with cotton wool. I was glad for her, but I envied her little.

After she had gone I thought about Colonel Pennant with gratitude and increased respect. It had never occurred to me that he would not give me away. The more I pondered the more my admiration grew. That man would be Chief of Staff someday. He could take it as well as dish it out!

G-Man  
AND then I thought—no one's telling me what happened last night. They think I'm not well enough to know. That means it's bad. Maybe someone else got hurt; maybe the murderer got away after all, got away with the manuscript and its costly secret. Maybe—maybe I caught the murderer and when I find out it's going to hurt.

I had a vision then of Gerald's eyes, no longer warm and friendly, or cold and alert; but beaten, terror ridden. A horrible vision. My heart rebelled against it. Whatever he had done I hoped they had not caught him. If they had—well, I didn't want to know it. I wouldn't ask—I wouldn't listen.

The nurse came in, smirking a little.

assuring about those fringed gray eyes. They stared at me blankly for a moment. Then he came over to the bed and looked down at me.

"What did you say?" he asked grimly. But he didn't wait for me to this, up an answer. "So that's why I couldn't keep a finger on you— Look here, young lady, if you go around accusing people so freely I don't wonder you get yourself strangled and battered."

"Huh!" I interrupted desperately. "I'd forgotten about that, man. I hadn't thought about you in connection with it. I-I beg your pardon." I went on inadequately. "You wouldn't have done that—"

The more I talked the more flustered I felt. I was not exactly making myself clear. But I saw a sort of grim amusement in Gerald's eyes.

"You mean I might kill someone but I would never batter a lady's head on the floor," he interpreted. "Well, that's not a bad character analysis. I admit I've never done the latter."

The nurse tittered. He turned and gave her a very fishy look. The missing monocle was practically visible for a moment. To my immense satisfaction she appeared to recall that she had other duties and withdrew.

And then the implication of what he had just said made its way to my bunched understanding. I looked into his eyes and saw the cold steel there, but I was not afraid. In that instant of revelation I saw that he could be pitiless but not unprincipled; that he could be ruthless, but never in the service of himself.

"You must think I'm a fool," I said, feeling my face grow hot. "You're—what are you? Intelligence?"

"Department of Justice. I thought you knew, of course. I'm the one who's a fool. I took it for granted, that night at the Flatstone Inn, when you made veiled references to my masquerade, that Adam had told you before he left. That was why he felt safe to go, of course. He thought I'd be able to look after you. I can't say I'm very proud of myself—"

The Randal's Case  
"YOU mean Adam knew, all along?" I demanded indignantly.

"Not at first. I found out he's only been here since July, so I told him, the night we found it. No one else knew, not even Colonel Pennant, until after Sandra was killed. He asked for a federal man to investigate, and as I was already here, I identified myself. I came originally for quite another purpose. Suppose I tell you a story."

He drew up a chair, offered me a cigarette which I declined to chance, and, sitting with the easy poise of a man who is never completely off guard, began to talk.

## On the Radio Chains

STATIONS  
Where to Find Them on the Dial:  
KEX, 1160, Portland; KFI, 640, Los Angeles; KGA, 1470, Spokane; KGO, 590, San Francisco; KGW, 120, Portland; KJR, 970, Seattle; KX, 1050, Los Angeles; KOA, 830, Denver; KOIN, 940, Portland; KOMO, 920, Seattle; KPO, 630, San Francisco; KSL, 1130, Salt Lake.

## Suburban Heights

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS  
The garden party with music at the community club resulted in some bad cases of ear strain, because the neighbors had to turn up their radios to hear them above the singer, who had to put on steam to be heard above the radios, and so on in a very vicious circle.

## Radio Highlights

By Associated Press  
(Time is Pacific Standard)  
Tonight: Europe, CBS 4:55, 6:30 east; WJZ-NBC 6; MBS 8; NBC 8.  
MBS-chain: 7:15, Rep. J. W. McCormack on "Housing and Defense."  
Tuesday: CBS-chain, 2:15, army war games, Maj. Ray Perkins.  
Short waves: HAT4, Budapest 3:35, songs and dance; GSD, GSC, London, 4:30, Britain Speaks; DJL, DJD, DXB, Berlin, 5:30, Lord Haw Haw; GSC, London, 6:30, radio newsreel.

## PHONE SUBSCRIBERS OF APPLAGATE AREA NEARING NORMALCY

Big Applegate, July 12—(Sp)—From the midst of a merry mix-up in adjusting themselves to use of the new dial telephone system, Applegate people are emerging confident the new system will be satisfactory. The telephones have been in operation here since the cut-over to the new system in

## STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

Two presidents of Chile— Pedro Montt, died Aug. 16, 1910; Elias Albano, died Sept. 6, 1910  
Salem, Aug. 12—(P)—State Fair Director Leo Spitzbart said today he had invited Wendell Wilkie, Republican presidential nominee, to attend the fair, opening September 2.

## PHONE SUBSCRIBERS OF APPLAGATE AREA NEARING NORMALCY

Medford and Jacksonville Saturday, August 3.  
Considerable difficulty was experienced in making mechanical adjustments in the Copper district until linesmen from Medford arrived and removed the obstacles. The dials there being 19 subscribers on one line and the remote locality necessitating batteries for telephones more than 20 miles from Jacksonville. During the first few days after the cut-over, eavesdropping brought serious hindrance. Little Applegate region reports absolute satisfaction with the new system.  
Ruch and lower Applegate subscribers expect to obtain

## Weather

Northern California: Fair tonight and Tuesday; fog on the coast; not quite so warm over the interior today; moderate northwest wind off coast.

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## TAILSPIN TOMMY—Barbara Acts Suspiciously

TRAPPED IN HIS STATEROOM, ABOARD THE BIG CLIPPER PLANE, COUNT CASTRONI IS THREATENED BY BARON VON HADRIC AND COUNTS LAYOFF, WHO DEMAND IMPORTANT PAPERS, STOLEN FROM THE MURDERED LORD JOHN-SMYTTE TWEEDY!



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Clancy's Rule



THE NEBBS—The Hero



## WAIT, FRITZ! THAT WOULD BE TOO MESKY! I HAVE A CLEAN, QUICK WAY...



AND I WAS AFTER PEANUTS! TRYING TO LIFT BRINKERLIN'S DIAMONDS! WHY THIS MEANS MILLIONS!!



OUTSIDE COUNT CASTRONI'S STATEROOM, SLINK PHARIOS, INTERNATIONAL CROOK, OVERHEARS...



HONEST, BEN, IT'S ALL ON THE LEVEL! POP HAS THE SAME RULE FOR MEN APPLYING FOR WORK, TOO. 'CEPT POP TAKES THEM ON HIMSELF!



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MY DEAR BARON, YOU ARE... ER... MISTAKEN... I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY PAPERS.



NOT THE KHYBAKAN!!! WAIT! WAIT! SHALL...



POP SAYS A BOY DOESN'T DESERVE A JOB LESSN' HE'S WILLING TO FIGHT FOR IT—YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW FEW ARE—YOU SEE, I KNOW! I'M THE GUY WHO TRIES 'EM OUT!



## BUT IF PHARIOS, AS WELL AS THE BARON AND TOMMY, COULD ONLY SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING... IN BARBARA LANE'S STATEROOM AT THIS MOMENT!!



THE NEBBS—The Hero



HONEST, BEN, IT'S ALL ON THE LEVEL! POP HAS THE SAME RULE FOR MEN APPLYING FOR WORK, TOO. 'CEPT POP TAKES THEM ON HIMSELF!



WHO WAS THAT YOUNG LADY YOU WERE SO TERRIBLY INTERESTED IN THAT YOU PRETENDED YOU DIDN'T SEE ME? I DON'T KNOW HOW YOUR LUNGS CAN HANDLE ENOUGH AIR TO SUPPORT THAT MOUTH!



## THE NEBBS—The Hero



YES WE WERE DOWN IN THE PACIFIC... IT LOOKED LIKE CURTAINS FOR US... THERE WAS A BIG SHARK PEERING AT ME THROUGH THE WAVES WONDERING WHEN HE WAS GOING TO EAT...



IT WAS ALL A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE, YOU HAD A LOT OF COURAGE TO ATTEMPT IT.



OH-HO! HE'S GOT A CUSTOMER FOR HIS THRILLING EXPERIENCES AND SHE SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING IT. ALL THIS ATTENTION WILL TURN HIS HEAD. IT SWINGS AROUND ON HIS NECK LIKE A WEATHER-VANE.



## POSTPONE SCHOOL BUS GLASS ORDER

Salem, Aug. 12—(P)—Public Utilities Commissioner Ormond R. Bean postponed Friday an order under which he had required all school buses to have shatter proof glass by next month.  
The order was postponed after county school superintendents protested it would work a

## German Bonds Eyed

San Francisco, Aug. 12—(P)—The securities and exchange commission office here said today it had "received reports of soliciting literature" regarding the proposed sale of \$1000 German bonds and that "the matter has been referred to Washington."