

THE PHONE BOOTH MURDER

by Phoebe Atwood Taylor

Chapter Nine Bitter Doane

BUT Mrs. Doane was an individual you could let yourself brood about. She was a large, powerful woman, and nearly as tall as Asey himself. If anyone around the Inn possessed the physique to move bodies, Mrs. Doane did. And she was the only person who'd made even the faintest slip of the tongue. "No body," under the circumstances, was a lot different from "nobody." That slip, coupled with her eagerness to get rid of Jennie and himself, didn't go to good.

Most important of all, she could switch her mood like a chameleon changed color. She could in an instant change the look on her face and the tone of her voice. To Asey, that ability was more significant than her powerful shoulders.

Of course, there was always the possibility that he was doing Mrs. Doane a great wrong. Perhaps she hadn't moved the body herself. But Asey couldn't help feeling that she knew something about it.

About a hundred feet from the Inn's gravel driveway, he slipped through the tall privet hedge on her face and the tone of her voice. To Asey, that ability was more significant than her powerful shoulders.

Now that the rain had stopped and the lights came on and he really had an opportunity to view the Whale Inn, Asey decided that the place could be summed up very briefly.

It bulged. From where he stood he could see no less than three upper-story sun decks and two captain's catwalks, and as he started to circle around the building Asey began to feel that the amazing part of this business was perhaps not so much that a body had been lost as that a body had even been found in the first place.

Perhaps, Asey thought, it had been a mistake on his part to assume that the body must necessarily have been removed by one of the people he had come in contact with. Those who alone were capable of concealing a regiment.

As he neared one of them toward the rear of the building, lights flashed on, and Asey sailed over the top of the window of what turned out to be the Inn's modern and well-appointed kitchen.

He suppressed an exclamation as the person who had snapped on the lights swung around and revealed himself as the hearty bald man who had been hunting the chicken thief with such vigor.

With the air of one who belonged there and intended to stay, the bald man removed his coat, pulled off a bright-green sweater, and exchanged them for a pair of slippers he picked up from under one of the stools.

"Huh!" Asey murmured under his breath. "Now who in blazes are you?"

Walking Arsenal
HE was considerably more curious when the man, after hanging up his wet overcoat, casually withdrew from his pockets a small pistol, a short, ugly-looking knife, and a blackjack.

Asey whistled softly to himself. Perhaps his abrupt departure from this walking arsenal of a man had been a wiser and a safer action than he ever could have guessed at the time.

Having stowed away his murderous collection in his hip pockets, the bald man put on a chef's white apron and set a chef's white cap on his head. Then he stood for several minutes in front of a mirror, adjusting the cap until he finally achieved that same cocky angle at which he had worn his little blue knitted cap.

When he at last turned around, Asey nearly let out a whoop. Now he recognized the man.

Now, with that outfit on, he remembered who the bald man was. He was Washy Doane, the cook of his uncle's old five-masted schooner R. R. Mayo. Bitter Doane he had been called, owing to his violent tendency to blurt over the head with the first object at hand anyone and everyone who disagreed with him.

Sometimes, in fact, Washy didn't even bother to wait for any agreement to take place. Sometimes Washy just bluffed.

It wasn't a habit that endeared Washy to his employers, and Asey's uncle Custer Mayo had been about the only person in those far-off days who was willing to sign Washy on. Custer, a fat, philosophic man devoted to what he called his victuals, felt that Washy's cooking was worth a few cracked skulls, and he steadfastly refused to believe or even listen to anyone who pointed out to him that, on numerous occasions, Washy's victims never entirely recovered. Custer said fitly that he wouldn't allow his cook to be libeled.

And here was Washy Doane, Bitter Doane, the central figure of dock brawls from Portland to Sitka, his pockets stuffed with

extensive bottom damage, the Alaska Steamship company offices here reported.

The ship's pumps were able to keep the water under control and the vessel turned about to start back here under her own power.

NET SCOOPS UP \$6,000 WORTH OF LIVER SHARKS
Astoria, Ore., Nov. 27.—(AP)—A catch of 217 soupfin sharks in one drift with a new cotton net produced 1,200 pounds of liver worth more than \$6,000. Capt. Tom Chatterton, whose boat made the catch, said it was landed at Newport earlier in the week.

Blackouts, few traffic police and other factors have tended to increase fatalities on Great Britain's highways.

Alaska Liner Rips Bottom On Rocks

Seattle, Nov. 27.—(AP)—The northbound Alaska liner Aleutian with 200 passengers aboard struck Ripple rock in Seymour narrows on the British Columbia coast early today and received

TIMELY CLOTHES

as featured at the John David Stores throughout the East.

Sold Only at

Barkercs
Store for Men

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1350, Portland
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland
KGA (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1510, Spokane
KGO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco
KJW (NBC-Red) 620, Portland
KX (NBC-Blue) 1000, Seattle
KXN (CBS) 1070, Los Angeles
KOA (NBC-Red) 850, Denver
KOIN (CBS) 570, Portland
KOMO (NBC-Red) 930, Seattle
KPO (NBC-Red) 680, San Francisco
KSB (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.
Time shown is PST

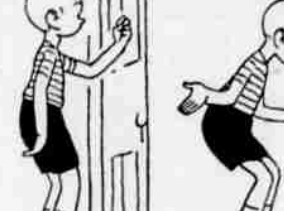
Thursday
5:00 p. m.—Adventure Stories, KGO, KJR, KEX; Death Valley Days, KSL; Jesse Allen, KOMO; Stars of Today, KGW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.
5:30 p. m.—Duffy's Tavern, KSL; News of the World, KGO, KEX, KJR; Board's Rhapsody, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Tonight's Best Buys, KXN; Scattergood Baines, KOIN.
6:00 p. m.—Secret City, KEX; Major Bowes' Amateur Hour, KXN, KSL, KOIN; News Here and Abroad, KGO; Bing Crosby, KPO, KOMO; Scandinavian Reporter, KJR.
6:30 p. m.—Joe Gallicchio's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.
7:00 p. m.—Glenn Miller's Orch., KXN, KOIN, KSL; Cugat Rumba Band, KGO, KJR, KEX.

ON TIME

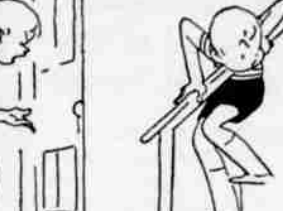
By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



HANGS AROUND KITCHEN DOORWAY SEEING HOW SOON SUPPER WILL BE READY, BECAUSE HE IS STARVING HUNGRY



GOES UPSTAIRS AND KNOCKS AT BIG SISTER'S DOOR TO MAKE SURE SHE'S READY



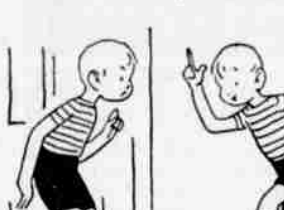
TELLS HER FOR PEE'S SAKE TO HURRY UP WITH HER DRESSING, SUPPER WILL BE READY AN SECOND NOW



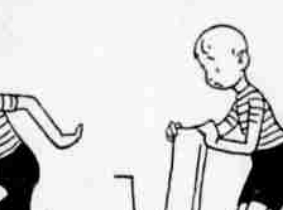
GOES DOWN CELLAR TO MAKE SURE THAT FATHER, BUSY AT HIS WORK-BENCH, WON'T HOLD THINGS UP



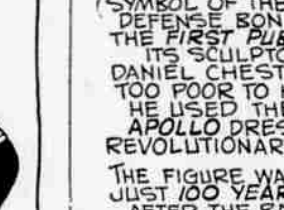
STANDS BY NERVOUSLY UNTIL FATHER HAS PUT ALL HIS TOOLS AWAY AND CLEANED UP



RETURNS TO KITCHEN DOORWAY WAITING IMPATIENTLY WHILE MOTHER PUTS THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO SUPPER



GETS THE SIGNAL THAT IT'S READY AND DASHES OUT TO HERD FAMILY INTO DINING ROOM



IS ABOUT TO SIT DOWN WHEN MOTHER REMINDS HIM HE WAS SUPPOSED TO CHANGE HIS CLOTHES, AND HED BETTER WASH HIS HANDS, TOO

LIL ABNER—Laugh, Clown, Laugh!

By AL CAPP



TAILSPIN TOMMY—Mysterious Note



By HAL FORREST

EXCELLENCY! WE ARE IN RADIO CONTACT WITH THE RAIDER V-X!



GOOD! TAKE THE CAPTIVES BELOW!



LOCK THEM IN THERE! SEAMAN GRUNION, YOU SHALL STAND GUARD!



S-SST!...ONE OF THOSE SAILORS STUCK A PIECE OF PAPER IN MY HAND!



IS THE SAILOR WHO WROTE THAT TERSE MESSAGE A FRIEND? WE'LL KNOW... TOMORROW



THEY LOOK FRESH AND NICE. MOST OF THEM I'LL BET IF YOU SHAKE 'EM WITHOUT DISASTROUS EFFECT



By SOL HESS

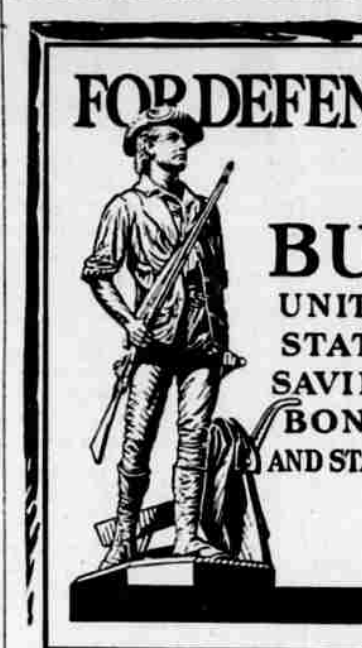
THE NEBBS—The Idea



By SOL HESS

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

by JOHN HIX



FOR DEFENSE

BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

THE STATUE OF THE MINUTEMAN

in Concord, Mass., (SYMBOL OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE BOND DRIVE) WAS THE FIRST PUBLIC WORK OF ITS SCULPTOR, FAMED DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH... TOO POOR TO HIRE A MODEL, HE USED THE STATUE OF APOLLO DRESSED IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR GARB! THE FIGURE WAS UNVEILED JUST 100 YEARS TO A DAY AFTER THE BATTLE OF CONCORD—APRIL 19, 1775...

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MINUTEMEN

All through American history there are records of men organized to be ready to take up arms against aggression at a moment's notice. The first such group, formed about the time of the French and Indian War, called themselves "Minutemen." Later during the Revolutionary War period, the Minutemen had to assist in ferreting out Tory "fifth columnists." In the first battle of the war of independence at Lexington, the Americans were represented by a body of 70 patriots under Captain John Parker. Most of them were Minute men. TOMORROW: 625-Pound Split!



TOO HOT TO HANDLE!

THE FAMED REGENT DIAMOND WAS STOLEN FROM THE FRENCH CROWN JEWELS IN 1792—BUT THE THIEVES COULD NOT DISPOSE OF IT, AND LEFT IT IN A DITCH SOME WEEKS LATER! SOME SPECIES OF FLIES HAVE REAR WINGS DEVELOPED INTO STREAMERS THAT ARE A HINDRANCE RATHER THAN AN AID TO FLIGHT!

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CAMEL BUGGIES...USED FOR DRIVING IN AUSTRALIAN DESERT COUNTRY!

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