

Secret Orders

BY
ELEANOR
ATTERBURY

YESTERDAY, Stephanie Merrill has decided that in spite of first impressions she is dangerously close to loving Capt. Kurt Knudsen. Unfortunately, Stephanie's cousin Vicky has the same idea, and is taking pains to improve her position. And now Kurt is called to duty with the air corps, and Stephanie is left to the slightly sinister ministrations of Henri de la Pagerie.

Chapter Five Danger Ahead

How charmingly your home is situated," Henri said nearly an hour later as they drove up before the old-fashioned three storied house on Sonoma Street where Merrills had lived since the Mad Forties.

"The view is 'pretty tonight,'" Stephanie murmured. She'd always loved the haughty old house, set so firmly on the crest of one of the city's steepest hills, impetuous to time and earthquake and seasons. And looking down on the beautiful harbor like a watchful duenna.

"Marvelous view of the Golden Gate," Henri enthused. "Perfectly marvelous. I'd no idea you could see the entrance to the harbor so splendidly from here."

"You must see it in the day time, some time," Stephanie murmured vaguely as they went up the steep steps to the front door. "I should be delighted," Henri bowed and then, when she'd thanked him, said goodnight.

Strange, she thought, watching his car turn out the gravelled drive past the garage that had once been a stable, how unrealistically she disliked that man. Then she immediately proceeded to put him completely out of her thoughts as old Tsang waddled to the door in answer to her ring, his moon face strangely grave and unsmiling.

"Master Guy is waiting for you in the library," little Missy said, stood nodding like a mandarin, hands rolled into white apron.

Stephanie pulled off her gloves. "Anything wrong, Tsang?"

The old Chinaman shook his head. "Master Guy looks pretty sick. Pretty sick."

Which meant, Stephanie translated easily, that her father was tired. Had probably been too tired to eat the delicious dinner Tsang had undoubtedly prepared painstakingly. To Tsang's mind, anyone who couldn't eat the delicious dishes he concocted was "pretty sick." Especially his beloved Master Guy. Old Tsang had been hovering over him, watching his likes and dislikes, worrying about Guy Merrill since he'd arrived from a hospital some forty-five years ago.

"And where you been, little Missy?" Tsang demanded.

Stephanie smiled. Next to Master Guy, "little Missy" received the rest of Tsang's concern. "To Aunt Allison's. Fix us some hot chocolate, will you, Tsang?"

Tsang beamed. "And some little cake. I fix it." Delighted, he shuffled off to his kitchen.

Stephanie's father looked up from his book as she pushed open the door to his study. For an instant, she was shocked speechless by the heavy lines of fatigue, anxiety she saw engraved in his face. Surely he hadn't heard about her accident, been worried—

Dynomite

HELLO, dear. Been hoping you'd turn up soon." He smiled and came up to her. He was wearing a white apron, and his hands to her drew her down onto his knee. "What you been up to?"

Stephanie sighed her relief. It wasn't she he'd been worrying about anyway. She'd tell him about the car in the morning. Now she tried to smooth away the weariness in his face. "Oh, just a party at the Mayfair with Vicky and a new tall and handsome to drive me home. What about you?"

His smile flickered, died out slowly. Like a warm fire, his going left his face ashen. Slowly he shook his head. "I only wish I knew."

"Why, Daddy, what's the matter?"

Passing one hand across his eyes, he released a great sigh. "It's been one damned thing after another up at the works at Titan. I don't know what's wrong. But

something's rotten. We've had one delay, one accident, after another. All absolutely unnecessary. All sheer carelessness."

"And whose fault was it?"

"We can't tell," Scowling again, Guy Merrill beat his fist gently against the padded arm of the chair. "Not Maguire. I know I'm right in trusting him. Most of the other men are old and trusted employees. All union men. All good workers. All loyal—or at least I believe they are."

"Then who—"

"That's just it. Who is responsible. Overnight, things go wrong. Orders don't get delivered straight. Material gets sent to the wrong place. He jammed his pipe between clenched teeth. "Damned if I know."

"But Dad, can't you get police help. Some detectives or something?"

He shrugged. "I could if I had anything to report. But so far I haven't any specific evidence against anyone. It's just inefficiency—on the surface. You can't tell the F.B.I. that."

"And your defense orders are important, of course, aren't they, Daddy?"

He grinned wryly. "Dynomite. Most of it for China via the Burma Road." He stared thoughtfully into the blazing hearth-fire.

"Whoever knows enough about our business up here to intercept inter-office and plant memos, distort simple orders, is going to know about the shipload of nitrates from Santiago due this week, too."

"But what could anyone do to that?"

"If I could guess that, honey, I wouldn't lose so much sleep." He ruffled her hair affectionately. "But, don't worry. They haven't licked me yet."

Stephanie smiled. "And they won't," she assured him.

Sabotage

"I'm not so sure," he said with foreboding that was so unlike her father's usual calm confidence that Stephanie felt alarm take hold.

"Then—how is it possible? What makes you so sure some of the employees are not loyal?" Stephanie argued.

"Naturally, that's the question. I employ over 1500 men. Some of them have worked for us for years. In the main, the turnover is pretty rapid. Working with explosives isn't exactly the safest job in the world."

"But can't you put detectives on the trails of these new men, discover what they are—"

"Hire a thousand detectives to trail boys that never get near my office? Who don't know any more than you do about the general plan of work?" Guy laughed. "My dear, you'd break me. Besides, it's not that simple."

"The man who is doing Titan the greatest harm is probably someone who's so well covered it will take months to catch him. I don't know, of course. But I have a feeling the trouble at Titan is only part of a perfectly organized plan to sabotage Bay Region industry."

Stephanie tried to laugh. "Daddy dear, you're borrowing trouble. San Francisco's had labor strikes and picket lines before. That doesn't mean we're all going to be blown to bits."

He smiled slowly. "Maybe you are right, dear. I hope so. Ah—," he said as he heard a big silver tray, pushed open the door, "good for you Tsang. Hot chocolate. I'll be wishing I had more of this before I get to Titan tonight."

"Tonight?" Stephanie repeated, amazed. "Surely you're not going up there this late?"

"Have to," Guy sipped the hot drink slowly. "Want to be there when that boat docks tomorrow. But Daddy isn't it risking your own safety unnecessarily?" Stephanie persisted when Tsang, still muttering, shuffled out of the room.

"Don't worry," he cupped her chin with his hand. "Only the good die young you know."

"That certainly let's you out," she teased, pretending to laugh. But she couldn't let go of the strange apprehension that nipped at the heels of her thoughts.

To be continued

FREIGHT RATES GO UP APRIL 18

Robert H. Holmes, district freight and passenger agent for the Southern Pacific Company announced today that the increase in freight rates authorized by the Oregon Public Utilities commission will become effective on Oregon intrastate traffic April 18.

The increases are identical to those authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission on interstate traffic which became effective March 18. The general increase is six percent with certain exceptions to agricultural products which will carry an increase of three percent.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

Kuppenheimer
fine clothes
\$50.00

Barkers
Store for Men

Lake Creek

Lake Creek, April 14—(Spl.)—Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fairchild and Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie of Medford were Sunday guests of Mrs. Fairchild's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Wyant.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pankey of Gold Hill visited Mrs. C. B. Moore Tuesday.

All are sorry to hear that Burrell Wyant is in a Medford hospital suffering from pneumonia.

Mrs. Ella Meyer is reported very ill at her daughter's, Mrs. Frank Pettigrew, at Eagle Point.

Miss Joan Damon visited at the A. L. Peck home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Meyer were dinner guests Saturday at the Harry Tonn home in Medford.

S. W. Starr, chief of the state division of audits, said there was an apparent shortage of \$2,000 in Holten's accounts. Holten was arrested yesterday by state police.

When Peter Minuit purchased Manhattan island from the Indians for \$24 in trinkets the town's population was less than 200.

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1330, Portland
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland
KGA (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1510
Spokane; KAO (NBC-Blue) 810
San Francisco; KGW (NBC-Red) 620, Portland; KJR (NBC-Blue) 1000, Seattle; KNA (CBS) 1670, Los Angeles; KOA (NBC-Red) 830, Denver; KOIN (CBS) 970, Portland; KOMO (NBC-Red) 930, Seattle; KPO (NBC-Red) 680, San Francisco; KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Tuesday

5:00 p. m.—Flying Patrol, KEX, KJO, KJR; Stars of Today, KGO; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO; Are You a Missing Heir, KSL; News, KOIN; Musical Portrait, KOMO.

5:30 p. m.—Bob Burns Show, KSL; Horace Heidt's Treasure Chest, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Bill Henry, KOIN; News of the World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Harry W. Plannery, KXN.

6:00 p. m.—Burns and Allen, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Second Husband, KSL; Serenade for You, KEX; Voice of Victory, KGO; Dance Time, KJR; Second Husband, KXN; What's the Answer, KOIN.

6:30 p. m.—Fibber McGee and Molly, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Symphony Concert, KGO, KEX, KJR; Report to the Nation, KXN, KOIN.

7:00 p. m.—Bob Hope-Variety Show, KPO, KOMO, KOW.

7:30 p. m.—Red Skelton, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Red Ryder, KGO, KJR, KEX; Vox Pop, KOIN.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KXN, KSL, KOIN; Three Ring Time, KGO, KJR; Fred Waring, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Rhythm Time, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Lum and Abner, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Lanny Ross, KXN, KSL, KOIN.

8:30 p. m.—I'm a Millionaire, KGO, KEX, KJR; Are You a Missing Heir, KXN, KOIN; Johnny Presents, KPO, KOMO, KOW; News, KSL.

9:00 p. m.—Duffy's Tavern, KXN, KOIN, KSL; News, KEX; Adventures of the Thin Man, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Captain Quiz, KJR.

9:30 p. m.—Don Bestor's Orch., KGO, KJR; Battle of the Sexes, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Bob Burns Show, KXN, KOIN; News, KSL, KEX.

10:00 p. m.—Cugat Rumba Revue, KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Masterworks of Music, KSL; News, KXN; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Stan Kenton's Orch., KSL; Al Donahue's Orch., KOMO; Sonny Dunham's Orch., KGO, KJR; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KOW; War Time Women, KOIN; Concert Hall, KPO.

11:00 p. m.—Swing Your Partner, KPO, KOW; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; Anita Carol and Erwin Yeo, KOIN; News, KXN, KGO; Revue, KOMO.

Wednesday

5:00 p. m.—Flying Patrol, KGO, KEX, KJR; Stars of Today, KGO; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO; Ken Stevens, KOIN; Brewster Boy, KSL.

5:30 p. m.—Dr. Christian, KSL; It Happened in the Service, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Eyes of the World, KOIN; News of the World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Harry W. Plannery, KXN.

6:00 p. m.—Edgar Castor Show, KPO, KOW, KOMO; American Melody Hour, KGO, KEX, KJR; Shirley Temple in Junior Miss, KXN, KOIN.

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11:00 p. m.—Swing Your Partner, KPO, KOW; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; Anita Carol and Erwin Yeo, KOIN; News, KXN, KGO; Revue, KOMO.

Closing time for Classified Ads 9 a. m.—Too late to classify 12:30 p. m.

The Grange

Applegate Grange

Applegate Grange met April 10 with Master Lester Hill presiding. B. A. Beck's application for reinstatement was accepted.

C. H. Elmore, agriculture committee chairman, reported on unloading of wheat and the prospect of only one more car being ordered through the A. A. office. The gypsum supply at present is not too far over the demand. On April 14 the A. A. community committeemen and wives are to meet at the court house to discuss wheat quotas and the 1942-43 program, with representatives from the state office at Corvallis.

H. E. C. Chairman Vella Hill reported a change in the next meeting place. The club will meet with Lydia Johnston on April 22.

During lecturer's hour C. E. Smith pointed out the various methods used in harvesting vetch and clover seed and the benefits derived from growing these crops.

Refreshments were served by the men of the Grange.

Central Point Grange

With C. F. Smith as chairman of the program, committee Central Point Grangers were entertained with an interesting 4-H club program conducted by county club leader L. E. Francis.

4-H club boys and girls of Willow Springs were awarded their achievements pins.

After the awards Mr. Francis put on moving pictures of 4-H county activities.

Other numbers on the program included a talk on his visit to Palestine by Dr. Geo. Simon of Eugene; an Easter tableau and solo by little Marilyn and Doreen Bohnert, and guitar selections by Ruby Twedell.

Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Hampton advised members of work day in the Grange kitchen with basket dinner at noon.

Five dollars was voted for the boys and girls Farm Home.

Roxy Ann Grange

A first aid class has been organized for Lone Pine school and Roxy Ann Grange districts, meeting each Tuesday at Grange hall beginning at 7:30 p. m. for a two-hour lesson with Dr. Jennings of Medford as instructor. There is still time for more to join. Come this evening so as not to miss any lessons.

Community night at Grange hall Friday evening afforded real entertainment.

Wednesday at 1:30 p. m. the H. E. C. ladies are to meet at the home of Mrs. C. B. Cordy on Heale lane. A good attendance is desired.

Members are also reminded of regular Grange meeting Friday evening.

YOUNG DEMOCRATS

Eugene, April 14—(P)—The state convention of Young Democratic clubs will be held in Eugene May 8 and 9, it was announced here today after a meeting of the state executive committee here Sunday.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

by JOHN HIX

CHESTER C. CULP—Waukegan, Ill., AND THE MALE MEMBERS OF HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY HAVE SERVED A TOTAL OF 198 YEARS IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES!

CULP, WITH 41 YEARS OF SERVICE, IS THE FIRST OF HIS FAMILY TO FIGHT FOR THE U.S. SINCE HIS GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER, WHO FOUGHT IN THE REVOLUTION!

TOMORROW—LOCOMOTIVE PUNCHER!

SERVICE RECORD

There was a long gap between his great-great-grandfather, who fought under Washington, and Chester C. Culp, whose family record of service is the longest. Culp's three brothers-in-law have together served a total of 62 years. His five brothers have served a grand total of 89 years! Two of Culp's sons are carrying on the family tradition. Edward has served three years and eight months. Malcolm two years and four months!

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4-14

UNTIL THE 1850'S JAP HORSES WORE STRAW SANDALS INSTEAD OF HORSESHOES!

by JOHN HIX

ON THE MONUMENT TO MR. AND MRS. OSCAR DIETZEL, GREENWOOD CEMETERY, BROOKLYN, IS SCULPTURED THE TRAIN WRECK IN WHICH BOTH WERE KILLED! A SMALL MARBLE ENGINE AND DERAILED CARS ARE DEPICTED...

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4-14

HAP HOPPER, Washington Correspondent

The Exception

Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen



L'L ABNER—Yokum Writhe Again!



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THE NEBBS—Rudy, the Skeptic



L'L ABNER—Yokum Writhe Again!



L'L ABNER—Yokum Writhe Again!



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L'L ABNER—Yokum Writhe Again!

By Hem