Secret Orders

BY ELEANOR ATTERBURY

Chapter 15

At The Bridge

"STEVIE, darling, I'm going to join the Red Cross," Vicky announced at the breakfast table the next morning. "Do you suppose I'll get one of those snappy uniforms like you wear?"

Stephanie smiled at her cousin. "You can have your uniform tailored at Chez Monteuil if you want to pay the price."

"That's a marvelous idea. I think I will. And it's going to be such fun really doing something."

But by the end of the week, Vicky had decided it wasn't fun at all to spend tedious hours making sandwiches, packing them.

"Mountains of them. I've made," she groaned. "I certainly didn't expect to spend my time slicing cheese and baloney. If I never see another sandwich, I'll be perfectly happy."

Stephanie shook her head. "Somebody has to do it. Look, we still haven't enough for the 10 o'clock canteen." And she attacked another stack of bread vigorously.

The door behind her opened and Vicky, drooping in a chair, suddenly came to life.

"Why, Henri, darling. Whatever are you doing here?"

Stephanie glanced up, noticed for the dozenth time how very good-looking Henri was.

"I am looking for two charming young ladies who, I hope, will have dinner with me," he said looking from one to the other.

"What a break!" Vicky jumped up, straightened her very smartly tailored coat. "Of course we'll go."

But Stephanie shook her head. "Can't, Henri. Too much to do here."

"Oh come now," he urged. "Surely you can't be expected to work all the time."

"I should say not. Don't be a drudge, Steve. Come on."

But Stephanie insisted and a moment later they were off, Vicky clinging to Henri's arm, sparkling with more enthusiasm than she had shown all week.

She forgot about them for the next few busy hours. And at ten when it was time to take out the canteen, she drove the station wagon herself up a back street to Van Ness, north to the bridge approach.

She stopped the car at the point beyond which civilians were forbidden to go, blinked her lights by way of signal to the sentry. While she waited, she relaxed, resting her head wearily against the steering wheel. She wished the sentry would hurry.

In a few moments she blinked the car lights again. Still no response. Finally, she honked the horn, two short, sharp blasts. Again,—no answer.

Tragedy

INSTANTLY, apprehension took hold of her. Something was wrong. There was a sentry on duty here all hours of the day and night. Besides, he would be expecting her.

She stepped quickly out of the car and, quite well aware that she was on forbidden ground, ran up the embankment to the wide cement bulwark that held back the black, sucking waters of the bay. She could hear the slosh, slosh of the water but the thick curtain of fog shut off vision of everything save the narrow walk under her feet. She shuddered, realizing that it would take only one misstep to plunge her into icy water. Then suddenly a gust of wind from the ocean pushed back part of the fog for an instant. Before the thick cloud closed in again, Stephanie saw—or thought she saw—a small boat. But it disappeared again before she could be sure.

"Halloa there! It's the canteen!" she called, moving cautiously along the cement wall.

Fear dogged her every step and her heart hammered thunderously. When, a moment later, she bumped squarely into a khaki-clad figure, she cried out.

"What are you doing here?" a deep voice demanded sharply.

"I'm the Red Cross driver. Brought the canteen. But there wasn't any sentry. He didn't—"

The soldier grasped her arm, guided her back along the wall. "No senry! That's impossible."

But it wasn't impossible. When he turned the beam of his powerful flashlight down onto the black water below them, they saw why. In the shallow water, half-submerged, lay the body of a man—face down, moving only with the steady pulse of the ripples.

They sounded the alarm, then, and the thick fog, gave up dozens of soldiers and, finally, the sinister discovery that the soldier who had only a few minutes before taken up his post, had drowned in less than three feet of water!

But how could he! Stephanie, horrified, realized she would never forget the sight of that limp, dripping form lifted out of the sticky black mud.

"Keep your mouth shut about this," a soldier advised her as he helped her back to the station wagon. "Probably an accident. But if it wasn't—" he finished with a shrug.

"But—how—if he'd fallen off the wall, wouldn't he have called for help?"

"Probably. But you just forget abut the whole thing."

Slip Of The Tongue

EVEN by the time she got home Stephanie was still trembling unnerved by the shock. When, stepping into the wide hall, she heard voices in the living room, she was tempted to fly to her own room.

But Vicky had heard her come in.

"Hi, Stevie darling, come in."

And as Stephanie pulled off her gloves, walked toward the cheery fire burning on the hearth where Henri and Vicky sat enjoying the warmth and a tall drink, she suddenly hated them both. For proceeding with "pleasure as usual" when there was great work to be done, when the life of their nation was at stake, when young soldier boys lost their lives in mysterious, awful tragedy.

"Goodness, darling, you look exhausted," Vicky said carelessly.

Fatigue, and fright and anger cut the check reins on Stephanie's temper. "I am exhausted," she snapped. "Maybe if you'd just seen what I saw, you too wouldn't be so damnably indifferent."

And before she realized what she was doing, she was pouring out details of the awful secret the bay had offered up.

"At the approach to the Golden Gate Bridge, you say?" Henri questioned her sharply.

And too late, Stephanie remembered the soldier's gruff warning to "keep her mouth shut about this." Too late, she recognized more than average interest in Henri's attitude.

"It was ghastly," she went on, more calmly, trying hard to disguise her discovery with a disarming smile. "But an accident no doubt. Sorry if I snapped at you. I'm just upset, I guess."

"But of course, darling," Vicky sympathized. "Who wouldn't be? Let's talk of something pleasant. Like the party at Millers' tonight."

And for the next half hour, Vicky painted brilliant word pictures of the charming Millers, their distinguished guests, their deep devotion to Henri and to their charming neighbor.

"It's a pity you didn't come with us," Vicky said finally.

A pity indeed, Stephanie agreed silently, studying the profile Henri turned to her as he sat staring into the fire apparently engrossed in his own thoughts.

She might then have been better able to discover just what Henri's secret was.

To be continued

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; KGO (NBC-Blue) 810 San Francisco; KGW (NBC-Red) 620, Portland; KJR (NBC-Blue) 1000, Seattle; KNX (CBS) 1070 Los Angeles; KOA (NBC-Red) 850 Denver; KOIN (CBS) 970, Portland; KOMO (NBC-Red) 950 Seattle; KPO (NBC-Red) 680 San Francisco; KSL (CBS) 1160 Salt Lake City.

Time Shown is PST

Sunday

5:00 p. m.—Edgar Bergen, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Daughters of Uncle Sam, KGO, KEX; World News Tonight, KNX, KOIN; Gospel Clinic, KJR; Ministerial Assn., KSL.

5:30 p. m.—Jack Owens, KJR; One Man's Family, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Lud Gluskin's orch., KNX; For Your Dancing Mood, KEX; Musical Highlights, KGO; Studio program, KOIN; Vesper Hymns, KSL.

6:00 p. m.—Fred Allen Show, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Concert by White, KGO, KIX, KJR; Manhattan Merry-Go-Round, KPO, KOMO, KGW.

6:30 p. m.—Clete Roberts, KGO, KEX; American Album of Familiar Music, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Conf. of Jews and Christians, KSL.

7:00 p. m.—Hour of Charm, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Goodwill Hour, KGO, KJR, KEX. Take it Or Leave It, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

7:30 p. m.—They Live Forever, KSL, KOIN; Walter Kinchell, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Inglewood Park Concert, KNX.

8:00 p. m.—Crime Doctor, KNX, KOIN; Great Gildersleeve, KPO, KOMO, KGW; News, KSL.

8:30 p. m.—Jack Benny, KPO, KEX, KJR; Ray McKinley's orch., KOIN; Hollywood Playhouse, KNX; Three Sheets in the Wind, KOMO; Beau Soir Musicale, KGW.

9:00 p. m.—Carnival, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Grandpappy and His Pals, KGO, KEX; Captain Quiz, KJR; Leon F. Drews, KOIN; String Ensemble, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Teddy Powell's orch., KGW, KOMO; What's It All About, KNX; Henry King's orch., KGO; News, KEX, KJR; Gaslight Harmonies, KOIN; Regal Amblings, KPO; On Temple Square, KSL.

10:00 p. m.—Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Sonny Dunham's orch., KGO, KEX; News, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL; National Vespers, KJR; We, the People, KNX.

10:30 p. m.—Bill Clifford's orch., KGO; Three Sheets to the Wind, KPO; Quiet Hour, KEX; Gospel Hour, KJR; They Live Forever, KNX; War Time Women, KOIN; Sabbath Reveries, KSL.

11:00 p. m.—This Moving World, KEX, KJR; Manny Strand's orch, KOIN; Al Donahue's orch., KPO, KGW; News, KNX, KGO.

Monday

5:00 p. m.—Floyd Wright, KOMO; Vox Pop, KSL, KOIN, KNX; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KGW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.

5:30 p. m.—News of the World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Harry W. Flannery, KNX; Voice, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Voices of Yesterday, KSL.

6:00 p. m.—Radio Theater, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Star Spangled Melodies, KPO, KOMO; Music by White, KGO, KEX; Before the Bombers Come, KGW; Treasury Star Parade, KSL.

6:30 p. m.—Your Blind Date, KGO, KEX; Dr. I. Q., Jim McClain, KPO, KGW, KOMO.

7:00 p. m.—For America We Sing, KGO, KEX, KJR; Freddy Martin's orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL.

7:30 p. m.—Blondie, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Cavalcade of America, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Jimmie Fidler, KGO, KEX, KJR.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGW.

8:15 p. m.—Irene Rich, KGO, KEX, KJR; Lanny Ross, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Lum and Abner, KPO, KOMO, KGW.

8:30 p. m.—I Love a Mystery, KGO, KEX, KJR; Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Gay Nineties Revue, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

9:00 p. m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KGW, KOMO; News, Buddy Franklin's orch., KJR; I Was There, KNX, KOIN; Dusty Records, KEX; Excursions in Science, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Hollywood Showcase, KNX, KOIN; News, KSL, KJR, KEX; Let There Be Music, KGO; Your Mayor Speaks, KGW; Concert Hall, KPO.

10:00 p. m.—Ran Wilde's orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Masterworks of Music, KSL; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Ed Stoker's orch., KPO, KOMO; Sonny Dunham's orch., KGO; Alvino Rey's orch., KSL; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; For America We Sing; Masterworks of Music, KNX; War Time Women, KOIN; Unlimited Horizons, KPO.

11:00 p. m.—Wilbur Hatch's orch., KSL, KOIN; Music and Moonlight, KPO, KGW; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; News, Reveries, KOMO.

Many Selectees Found Tubercular

Portland, April 25.—(AP)—Ten per cent of the selectees rejected at the Portland army induction center between March 23 and April 7 had tuberculosis, Lieut.-Comdr. V. E. Hockett, state medical officer for the naval reserve, said yesterday.

He told the Oregon Tuberculosis association at its annual convention that total rejections average about one man in three.

FISHERMAN DROWNS

Astoria, Ore., April 25—(AP)—A fisherman lost his life today as his trolling boat capsized and five coast guardsmen in a convoying patrol craft narrowly escaped death attempting to cross the Garibaldi bar. The dead man was Otis Palmer, 65, Mohler, Ore., who was trapped in the cabin of his boat, the El Segunda, as it turned over in heavy seas.

THE WORLD AT ITS WORST — By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

He Is Son of Navy Hero

Mrs. Hilda Bulkeley, wife of Lieut. John D. Bulkeley, one of the U. S. Navy's heroes, beamed at New York over the news of her husband's latest exploit in the Philippines, as she holds their infant son, John, D., Jr., born April 3. Lieut. Bulkeley's torpedo boats were credited with damaging a Japanese light cruiser in an attack near Cebu. The Bulkeleys also have a daughter, Joan, age 19 months.

High Priced Jitterbug

Film Actress Joan Crawford became Hollywood's highest-priced jitterbug when she went through the vigorous dance routine with Allen Jenkins as a partner for a scene in her newest picture. She's getting $125,000—the money's to go to charity—for the film, and observers figured the pay for the dance came to some $10,000.

Civilian Defense Activities

New first aid and late incendiary bomb motion pictures will be shown at an advanced first aid class now forming at the Boy Scout headquarters, 500 East Main street Monday, April 27, at 7:30 p. m.

Air raid wardens and first aiders should see this picture.

NURSING CLASSES NEED INSTRUCTORS

Registered nurses in Jackson county who are willing to donate their time in teaching classes in home nursing in the rural areas of the county are asked to contact the Red Cross office in the county court house. Mrs. Henry Padgham, chairman of the home nursing committee in the county, said that it is hoped nurses may be found in various areas throughout the county as Red Cross wishes to offer this instruction to mothers in the most remote parts of the county.

It is extremely difficult to find nurses who are free from duties of their profession at this time, Mrs. Padgham said. Each course takes 30 hours and if a nurse could teach, but does not have transportation she is asked to turn her name into the office anyway. Nurses who could give their time in the evening or afternoon are asked to also register immediately and specify the most convenient teaching time.

GRADUATE EARLY

Baker, Ore., April 25.—(AP)—Hereford Union high school, under a speed-up to release students for spring farm work, held its graduation exercises Wednesday night.

CAVALRY TROOP TO HOLD FIRST DRILL MONDAY

The first mounted drill of the local State Guard Cavalry Troop will be held Monday at 6:45 p. m. at the county fairgrounds, it was announced yesterday. Enlistments are continuing and many more are expected to register Monday evening. Arrangements are being made for the rental of horses for those wishing to enlist but who do not own their own horses and equipment. Rental will be a nominal fee for the actual time the horses are in use by the enlistees.

O. H. Bengtson, captain of the Jackson county Sheriff's Posse, who has been assisting in organizing the cavalry troop under the direction of General Coghill, commander of the state guard, has tendered his resignation as captain of the Posse in order to devote further time to assisting in organization of the mounted troop.

All men between the ages of 20 and 64 who do not have serious disabilities are eligible for enlistment. Further particulars may be obtained by contacting Mr. Bengtson.

Instruction of the Cavalry Troop will be under the direction of Major H. C. Tobin, U. S. army retired of Portland. Retired cavalrymen and retired cavalry officers now living in southern Oregon are giving their assistance to the organization and training of this State Guard Cavalry Troop, Bengtson said yesterday.

Portland, April 25.—(AP)—Oregon sales of Christmas seals reached a record $101,267 last year, $11,000 more than the 1941 goal.

The Grange

Sams Valley Grange

Sams Valley Grange held regular meeting April 14. Two new names were read. We have four more names to be brought in at next meeting.

Considerable interest was shown in the insurance policies that have been cancelled in the Beagle district due to the cantonment.

Plans are being made for the dedication of our hall which we plan to have May 3. We wish all of our Grange members to keep this in mind and watch for further announcements. We plan to practice next Grange meeting which will be April 28.

Mrs. John Peffley was elected as lady assistant and Max Schulz was elected door keeper.

Refreshments were served by home economics committee.

Willkie Dominant Says Ralph Cake

Portland, April 25.—(AP)—Wendell Willkie is more than ever the dominant power in the Republican party, Ralph H. Cake, Oregon GOP national committeeman said today.

Returning from the party's national committee meeting in Chicago, Cake said: "Willkie's position is stronger, not necessarily as a candidate for 1944, but as leader of the party, no matter who is the candidate."

The population of India is about the same as Europe, not including Russia.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOURS?

—Courtesy Washington, D. C., Star

HALF OF HOMES USED BY OWNERS

A housing report based on the 1940 census shows that out of the 3,930 dwelling units in Medford at that time, 1,826, or 49.4 per cent were owner occupied, according to A. P. Butler, secretary of the Jackson County Federal Savings and Loan association, who received the figures this week.

The report also shows that 50.2 per cent of the owner units were mortgaged. During that period the Jackson County Federal Savings and Loan association financed 485, or 53 per cent of the home mortgages in Medford, according to Butler.

The local association now has 660 home loans in Medford and 136 dwelling units were added in Medford last year, making a total of 4,066 dwelling units up to January first of this year.

NEW COLLEGE COURSE

Tampa, Fla., April 25.—(AP)—University of Tampa students had a new course offered them today—tax collecting. Beginning next week they will call on about 11,000 persons who have failed to pay their current city personal property tax. Students will receive commissions to help with school expenses.

Fort Lewis, April 25.—(AP)—The army announced today the establishment of an Effects Bureau to handle storage and disposal of personal property left at the camp, stations or on trains by military personnel upon departure for overseas duty.

AWARDS MADE ON MUSIC POSTERS

Southern Oregon College of Education, Ashland, April 25.—(Spl.)—The winners of the Music week poster contest sponsored by Pro Musica, national music honorary on the campus, have been announced by Eleanor McColm of Grants Pass, contest chairman.

The contest was divided into two divisions. The first division comprised grades nine to 12. First place and $5 went to George Mack of Ashland high school; second place and $2.50 to Eva Taylor of Medford high school; honorable mention in the first division was given Ted Whited and Ned Borraclaugh of Ashland high school and Mary Loeffler of Medford high school.

Second division included grades four to eight. First place and $4 was awarded Phyllis Merrick, grade 6-A of the Roosevelt school in Medford; second place and $2 to Lois Hibbard, grade 6-A of the Roosevelt school of Medford; honorable mention in the second division went to Bill Starnes and Carl Surber of Lincoln school in Ashland.

SAWMILLS HELP

Portland, April 25—(AP)—Oregon's 600 lumber mills and 2230 logging camps today joined the salvage drive to collect scrap metals for the nation's war effort. Operators estimated that they can salvage thousands of tons of scrap from junk scattered throughout the industry's far-flung mills and timber camps.

Crossword Puzzle

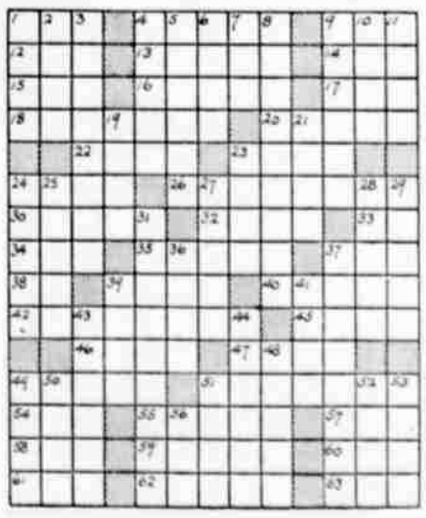
ACROSS

1. Pouch
4. Commence
9. Steal
12. Mountain: comb. form
13. Artic
14. Biblical king
15. He the victor
16. Amounts derivative
17. Encountered
18. Yellowish-red color
20. Pine Tree state
22. Engrave or scratch
23. Harbor boats
24. Ran away
26. Emit a play of colors
30. More recent
32. Book of the Bible
33. Symbol for radium
34. Exist
35. Good-bye
37. Haul
38. Four
39. Revolved rapidly
40. Comparative darkness
42. Sharp knocking
45. Finished
46. Pagan god
47. Pallid
49. American black snake
51. Special abilities
54. Writing fluid
55. State whose capital is Boise
57. Color
58. Number
59. Poisonous red dye
60. Before
61. Make edging
62. Rent
63. Measure of length

DOWN

1. Planted
2. Operatic song
3. Building material
4. Boxes
5. Fruit
6. Dismounted
7. Went quickly
8. Wavering
9. Negligent
10. Baking chamber
11. Sting of an insect
19. Assistant
21. Cows
23. Demonstrated
24. Aptitude and inclination
26. Wormlike form of an insect
27. Pigment
28. Dandified
29. Axis
31. Living on prey
36. Double
37. Power
39. Hebrew letter
41. Perforation
43. Price tag
44. Algerian seaport
46. Without assistance
48. Tumultuous disorder
50. East Indian money
51. Ancient Irish capital
52. Novice
53. Oxide
55. Dating

Solution Of Saturday's Puzzle



HAP HOPPER, Washington Correspondent — He'll Tell Her — Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen

LI'L ABNER—On With the Show! — By Al Capp

THE NEBBS—"The Old Gray Mare" — By Hess