

MRS. MURDOCK TAKES A CASE

by George Harmon Cox

Chapter 26 Bacon's Ruin

Allen shrugged and looked at the plain-clothes man. "Ready?" he asked and walked over to the door where he turned. "Sorry, Dean," he said. "This may be pretty rotten for the firm but there's not much I can do about it now. . . . Bye, Joyce. . . . And thanks, Dee," he added, not looking at her. "Don't let them bully you and don't worry."

"Worry?" Della stood up and faced him. "Why should I worry? Do you? Have you ever?"

Joyce gasped at the outburst. Gone from the girl was the look of pain and dejection; now her eyes sparkled and her voice was stiff with emotion.

"It's that hateful pride of yours. You don't want help from me or anyone else. No matter how intolerable the situation you'll always have that stubborn indifference to protect you. You don't want a lawyer. You can't be bothered to defend yourself. You'd rather stay here than admit you're in trouble. . . . All right. Stay here and rot a while. Maybe it will do you some good."

After that the silence was oppressive. Della continued to stare at him, waiting for some answer, but none came. With the first angry flare of spirit Ward Allen had recoiled as though someone had struck him, then the look of hurt was gone, leaving his face stiff and impassive. Without a word he left the room.

Della sagged. She tried not to keep her head up defiantly, but something had gone out of her.

"Why did I have to do that?" she said, hopelessly.

Bacon stood glaring at the door, his long face still flushed. Thorndike ran his hand over his jaw and shook his head, scowling, his eyes puzzled.

Joyce was completely miserable. She did not know what to believe. She had seen the shocking effect of O'Connor's announcement in Ward Allen's face, seen him steel himself against the questioning that followed. Either Ward had thrown the gun away or the taxi driver had been mistaken.

But it was not this alone that made her feel so faint inside. Something terrible and frightening had happened to Ward and Della.

Cigarette Case

A CHAIR scraped and Thorndike was walking round the table.

"Now, now," he said. "He'll be all right, and so will you. We'll get a lawyer and have him out before night."

He patted Della's shoulder, squeezing it so that she looked at him and tried to smile. Joyce stood up and Thorndike started for the door.

"Just a minute, Miss Stewart," Bacon was turned to the desk. "Will you take a look at this, please?"

Della gave him a questioning glance, and stepped up beside him. Joyce could see Bacon gesture to something flat and gleaming on the desk.

"Ever seen that before?"

Della picked up the object and Joyce saw it was a silver cigarette case. She waited while the girl turned the case over in her hand.

"I'm sorry, I haven't," she said. "She did not replace the case but extended it to Bacon so that he had to accept it. Not until then, as he took it, holding two edges between thumb and middle finger, did Joyce realize what had happened."

Fear struck at her and she went cold inside. Della was walking towards Dean Thorndike. Bacon put the case on the desk, his back to the room; then Joyce knew

what he had to do and was walking resolutely towards him.

"By the way, Lieutenant. Are you still holding that man Raeburn?"

"Yes," Bacon said. "but I don't know for how long. We haven't cracked him and his lawyer must have influence. Some pressure came down the line to the D.A. from Washington. If we don't get something soon we'll have to let him go."

He had turned to face her, leaning back on the desk, his hands braced at his sides. She stood quite close to him, trying to edge around him, talking, not knowing exactly what she said. Presently she made her smile a little more winning and approached the problem directly.

"Could I see that case?" Perhaps I may have—

"I doubt it," Bacon said. He was smiling too, but there was a queer look in his gray eyes. "I don't think you're even seen it before."

A plain-clothes man appeared beside her and she realized that Bacon had pressed the buzzer.

"You can have this now, Wasey," he said, stepping so close to Joyce that she had to move back. "She can't identify it."

Joyce saw the plain-clothes man reach for the case. When he started out she saw he was holding it the same way Bacon had.

Then he was gone and she was walking to where Thorndike and Della waited, drawing on her gloves so that they would not see the fear in her eyes. Even in the hall she kept her face averted lest it should reveal her feelings. Della's fingerprints were on that case—and very soon now those prints would be compared with those on the glass from which Della had sipped her drink in Perry Clarke's apartment.

Maybe He Did

DEAN THORNDIKE handed them into his car and drove slowly down Berkeley Street, easing to a stop in front of the traffic light.

"We'll go down to the office," he said. "and I'll call Arnold Gage. He's the best lawyer in town for this sort of thing."

"I think Della would rather go home," Joyce said.

"Yes, please," Della said. "For a little while."

Thorndike started to speak, checked himself when he looked down at the girl at his side. The light changed and he shifted gears, continuing straight across. "All right, I'll drop you off. You do look done in."

She was staring straight ahead, a look of blank despondency in her eyes.

"Why did I do that?" There was a catch in her voice but she quickly controlled it. "I wanted so to let him know it didn't matter to do something to help him. I didn't mean to be such a nasty little beast but—"

"Of course you didn't," Joyce said.

"I couldn't stand it. He just sat there as if nothing could possibly matter to him any more, as if he didn't even want us around."

"He didn't expect us," Joyce said. "He came in prepared to put up a good front and not let the lieutenant rattle him, and he didn't dare let down."

"And how perfectly awful it must be for him."

"Just the same," Thorndike said. "I think he's taking the wrong attitude. That taxi driver could be mistaken but it does look as though Ward was out and around about that time. Why shouldn't he explain his movements? I don't know, Dee, I think he's hiding something."

There was more silence and then Thorndike spoke again.

"I don't like to say it, but there's one thing we ought to consider. Maybe he did kill Clarke."

To be continued

Spectators Flee Blaze



Spectators flee from the scene as a balloon, intended for exhibition ascension burst into flames while being inflated at Bedford, Ind. Several thousand persons were nearby to see a scheduled parachute jump from the balloon. Picture was made by amateur photographer D. L. Fisher.

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) 1810, Spokane.
KID (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco.
KJW (NBC-Red) 620, Seattle.
KJR (NBC-Blue) 1090, Seattle.
KSL (CBS) 1070, Los Angeles.
KOA (NBC-Red) 850, Denver.
KOIN (CBS) 270, Portland.
KOMO (NBC-Red) 950, Seattle.
KPO (NBC-Red) 880, San Francisco.
KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Tuesday
6:00 p. m.—Ray Harrington's Orch. KPO, KGW, Are You a Missing Heir, KSL, Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR, News, KOIN, Stars of KXN, Musical Portrait, KOMO.
6:30 p. m.—Nature of the Enemy, KSL; Clete Roberts Reports, KEX, KGO; Horace Heidt's Treasure Chest, KPO, KOMO, KGW, Harry W. Flannery, KXN, KOIN; Folk Music from Many Lands, KJR.
6:50 p. m.—Tommy Biggs and Betty Lou, KXN, KSL, KOIN; Battle of the Sexes, KXN, KGW, KOMO; Green Hornet, KEX; Voice of Victory, KGO; Dance Time, KJR.
7:00 p. m.—John Nesbitt and Meredith Wilson's Orch., KPO, KOMO, KGW; Cheers from the Camp, KXN, KOIN; Inevitable Mr. Sand, KGO, KJR, News, KEX.
7:30 p. m.—Counter Spy, KGO, KEX, KJR; Cheers from the Camp, KXN, KOIN, KSL; Date with Judy, KOMO, KPO, KGW.
7:50 p. m.—Tommy Dorsey's Orch., KPO, KGW, KOMO; Red Ryder, KGO, KEX, KJR, Tills, KSL, KOIN; Time Out for Melody, KXN.
8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KXN, KSL, KOIN; Earl Godwin, KGO, KJR, KEX; Fred Warding, KGO, KJR, KOMO.
8:15 p. m.—Story Dramas, KGO, KOMO; Glen Miller's Orch., KXN, KSL, KOIN; Lum and Abner, KGO, KEX, KJR; Music Salon, KGO, KJR, KEX; Are You a Missing Heir, KXN, KOIN; Johnny Presents, KPO, KGW, KOMO, News, KSL.
9:00 p. m.—News, KSL, KOIN; News Here and Abroad, KGO; Adventures of the Thin Man, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Musicale, KJR; American Melody Hour, KXN.
9:30 p. m.—Over the Top, KGO, KJR; Jerry Wald's Orch., KXN, KOIN; News, KSL, KEX.
10:00 p. m.—Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Five Star Final, KXN; Masterworks of Music, KSL.
10:30 p. m.—Sports, KSL, KXN; Harry Owens and His Hawaiians, KPO, KOMO; Fredy Martin's Orch., KGO, KJR; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; War Time Women, KOIN.
11:00 p. m.—Swing Your Partner, KPO, KGW; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; News, KGO, KXN; Dance Orch., KOIN; Reveries, KOMO.

Wednesday
5:00 p. m.—V. V. Kaltenborn, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Nelson Eddy, KXN, KOIN, KSL; Flying Patrol, KEX, commerce reports.

Blanket Insurance for Captured Yanks

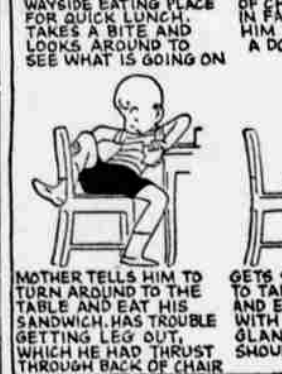
Washington, July 14.—(AP)—Legislation providing blanket insurance policies for American soldiers held captive by axis powers, if captured or under

pele between the attack on Pearl Harbor and April 20, was signed into law today by the president.

Tens of thousands of soldiers captured on Bataan and Corregidor would be affected by the legislation.

The ban on wrapping paper for over-the-counter sales in Great Britain has contributed to shoplifting, the department of commerce reports.

SIDE SHOW
By GUYAS WILLIAMS



STOPS WITH FAMILY AT WAYSIDE EATING PLACE FOR A BITE AND LOOKS AROUND TO SEE WHAT IS GOING ON

RESTS CHIN ON BACK OF CHAIR, ABSORBED IN THOUGHTS OF HIM WHO HAD A DOG

TURNING AROUND SQUARELY, HE SEES THE DOG BETTER

MOTHER TELLS HIM TO TURN AROUND TO THE TABLE AND EAT HIS SANDWICH, WITH OCCASIONAL GLANCES OVER SHOULDER AT DOG

GETS SQUARED AWAY TO TABLE AT LAST AND EATS SANDWICH, FINISHES SANDWICH AND GIVES ENTIRE ATTENTION TO DOG

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COURT HOUSE NEWS

Marriage Licenses
Elmer Calvin Knight and Grace Eleanor Sellers.
Harry Donald Mitchell and Florence Reed.
Earl Joseph Vasseur and Catharina Beila Smith.
Robert Harley Simmons and Grace Marie Brooks.
Austin Edward Caldwell and Alma Phyllis Wier.
Frank C. Roberts and Clara Gladys France.
Edward Joseph Gartland and Helen Eva Vonada.

Divorces Filed
Stephen G. Crippen vs. Berles E. Crippen.
Arlene Dunksen vs. Dinnie Lee Dunksen.
Lorene M. Melton vs. J. B. Melton.
Betty Louise Coss vs. Earl S. Coss.
Edna Dorothy Pyle vs. Harford Lewis Pyle.
Parthena Mac Campbell vs. Leal Ellison Campbell.
Lillie Marion Larivee vs. Leonard E. Larivee.
Mary Huskey vs. Amos E. Huskey.
Ada Brown vs. Earl Brown.
Margaret May Payne vs. John M. Payne.

Deaths
W. H. Crandall to Orville E. Henderson, quitclaim deed.
Jackson County Federal Savings and Loan Association to A. O. Miller, warranty deed.
Ephraim A. Humpton to Thelma Dorothy Humpton, warranty deed.
Mamie C. Walton to George W. Oliver, warranty deed.
W. J. Jamison to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Harold Gebhardt to Edward W. Gebhardt, bargain and sale deed.
Edward W. Gebhardt to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Harold Gebhardt to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
C. A. Baker to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Benjamin B. Beekman to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Aletta Bell Bigham to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Joseph R. Perry to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Blanche Street to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
J. D. Morrison to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Earl L. Bigham to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
O. C. Boggs, Jr. Ethel Boggs and D. Stanley Boggs to U. S. of America, quitclaim deed.
O. W. Freed to George B. Crapsey, warranty deed.
Allie M. Waddell to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
C. Austin to Orval R. Ross, warranty deed.
L. R. James to Lily M. Grace, quitclaim deed.
Nellie Peley to Clara Stuart, warranty deed.
A. L. Daugherty to California Oregon Power Company, right of way.
Lottie Owens to Alice Cuniffe, deed.
Malinda L. Pruett to Fred Dutton, warranty deed.
S. K. Pollard to J. B. Rush, warranty deed.
J. B. Rush to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Floyd D. Davidson to Charlotte S. Kraft and Ruth E. Wright, warranty deed.
J. Everett Hannah, to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Samuel F. Coy to Sarah A. Coy, quitclaim deed.
Clarence H. Corey to U. S. of America, warranty deed.
Floyd F. Dickey to L. J. Reed, warranty deed.
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Hilrich Holst to Rosalia Ernestine Abbott, warranty deed.
Elwood Emerson Abbott to U. S. of America, warranty deed.

HAP HOPPER, Washington Correspondent—Back Again

Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen

LI'L ABNER—Beauty and the Beast

By Al Capp

THE NEBBS—Public Opinion

By Hess

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