

MRS. MURDOCK TAKES A CASE

by George Harmon Cox

Chapter 30. To The Rescue

THE question died before the impact of a new and terrifying thought. For that instant she could not move, she could not think, then something snapped inside her and she was clawing at the door and somehow finding herself in the street and running towards that darkened doorway.

How could she possibly have thought that Raeburn's presence here offered a solution? He was not the man who had first come to Della demanding the envelope and threatening exposure. Della knew Raeburn. She had not known the man who had called!

Joyce was on the sidewalk now and once through the doorway she saw the light at the back of the hall and found the interior less dark. She went up the stairs without pausing, the loud clatter of her steps re-echoing from the narrow walls. At the landing she saw the light from the door panel. She ran towards it, but even in her frenzied haste she could not discipline her thought nor stay her mounting panic.

"Della!"

She was at the door now, tugging at it and finding it locked before she saw the number on the panel and realized her mistake. She turned back to room twenty-four and called again, feeling no sense of personal danger, but only of fear at what she might find.

"Della!"

She opened the door and listened and there was no sound but her labored breathing. The implication of this silence was stark and terrible in her mind and she called again, finding her voice suddenly hushed and inadequate.

She forced herself to close the door, to face the prospect of moving towards the rectangle of light that streamed from the adjoining room.

Vaguely aware that she was standing in some outer office, she started for the doorway, finding each step a tremendous muscular problem. . . . One, two, three—she could see a good part of the room now, a leather chair, the corner of a desk—four, five. . . .

The Closet

THE room was empty, amazingly and completely empty. There was the desk and an overturned chair and a desk lamp which made strange shadows in the corners; there was a leather chair, cracked and worn. A bookcase, well-filled and cluttered on top with papers and magazines extended along one wall; there were two doors, one leading to the hall, the other opening from a squarish projection in the corner.

She took time to see all this before she tried to do anything else; then she took another step and incredulity began to fade as something lay along her spine. She looked back into the darkened anteroom, not moving her feet. She started to call out again and found she could not without clearing her throat.

"Della!" she cried. "Della!"

There was no answer; it seemed almost as though she had expected none, and in the end, she made herself inspect the room. She walked past the desk, noting as she did so that a telephone book lay open, and a scratch pad, on which something had been written. She went to the window and looked out and found nothing but a shaftlike space from which a vacant window stared darkly. She turned slightly and found her eyes focusing on the door which formed one wall of the corner projection.

Some frightful premonition seized her and she stood there stiff and breathless, her gaze riveted on the knob. After a while she knew she would have to go over and turn it. Fear had eaten away all bodily warmth now, and yet as she started towards that door the room was suddenly close and her blood began to pound.

It took an intense effort of will to make herself touch that white china knob, an even greater will to turn it. But she did, quickly, determinedly, so that the light behind her spilled feebly over the floor of the closet and the ghastly picture struck her all at once—the angle of the body, the tilted head, the pallid face, stained all along one side with blood.

That much she saw in that first horrifying instant—the body—oh, thank God, not Della's, but a man's—and then the floor tilted under her, and her eyes closed, and she leaned against the wall, clinging to the door to keep the room from spinning.

She stood there for a long moment, fighting hard against her nausea. She dared not open her eyes until she had groped her way along the wall and then, grateful for its support, she leaned back against it, all faint and sick inside, and said, her voice a frozen whisper: "Della! Della, where are you?"

Behind The Door

JOYCE was never sure how long she stood there. To her it seemed forever before her strength came back and she got her nerves in hand. Then she pushed away from the wall. She straightened her shoulders. After that she tried to rationalize her fears.

Her first sane reaction after the shock of finding that thing of horror on the closet floor was one of overpowering relief. Then, on the heels of that relief came another thought no less terrifying than the first. Just because a man had been murdered did not mean that Della had not suffered the same fate. If she had actually seen the killer—

A sudden noise brought her mind back to the moment and she stiffened again, every sense alert. It was a queer sound, muffled and indistinct, coming from off to one side. From the hall, she thought, or the anteroom.

"Della," she said again and started towards the open doorway.

There was no answer, but she did not stop, and when she gained the adjoining room she paused, looking for a light or a switch. The sound came again, a low moaning, and with it the soft rasping of something across the floor.

Over behind the door a shadow moved and stood out darker than its surroundings. Joyce trembled with quick new hope and started forward, seeing the shadow move again and knowing now that this was Della, that she was alive. A light switch gleamed and caught her eye next to the door and she stopped to press it; then the room was bright and her heart was in her throat and she was on her knees beside the girl.

Apparently she had been lying on her back because when Joyce saw her she had pushed up on one arm and her eyes, dazed and enormous against the dead white background of her face, did not at once focus.

"It's Joyce, darling. Joyce is here. It's all right."

Her resiliency was amazing. The color had come back into her face and she had stopped trembling. She put her finger to the back of her head, explored it gently and said: "Umm. A twinge of pain slid across her eyes and she added: "Somebody bopped me."

Suddenly her rueful smile gave way to a look of quick alarm and she thrust her hand in her pocket. "Lie got the envelope."

To be continued

SHIP LIME ROCK FROM KANES CREEK QUARRY

Gold Hill, July 27.—(Sp.)—Lime rock is again being shipped from here to the paper mills. Several years ago this industry was active here when James Lively headed the company. The present quarry is situated near the old quarry, on Kanies Creek and is operated by T. E. McCroskey, Ed Shoemaker,

foreman for many years of the old quarry is again in charge of the work.

STEVEDORE SHORTAGE

Seattle, Wash., July 27.—(AP)—The shortage of longshoremen had become so acute here today that a committee for the army, navy and the waterfront employers of Washington was authorized to allocate available men where most needed.

One Reason Why Rosar Went AWOL



Warren (Buddy) Rosar, New York Yankee catcher, is back with the team, telling the boys about his new son, while Mrs. Rosar and the baby, born last Monday, continue doing well at a Buffalo hospital. Buddy went AWOL recently to take a Buffalo police civil service examination and was fined \$250.

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:

Chain affiliations and where they are on the dial:

KALE (MBS) 1330, Portland.
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland.
KJIA (NBC-Blue & CBS) 1510, Spokane.
KJIO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco.
KJW (NBC-Red) 620, Portland.
KJZ (CBS) 1070, Los Angeles.
KOA (NBC-Red) 830, 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

Monday

5:00 p. m.—Don Vining, KPO; Vox, KEX, KJZ, KJW; Stars of Today, KGW; Transitions, KOMO.

5:30 p. m.—News, KGO; Voice, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Harry W. Plannery, KNX, KOIN; Here Comes the Band, KEX; Folk Music from Many Lands, KJR; Melodies Moderne, KSL.

6:00 p. m.—Victory Theater, KSL; Pop, KSL, KOIN, KNX; Flying Pa-KOIN, KSL; Goldman Band Concert, KEX, KJR; Minstrel Melodies, KPO, KOMO; Jr. Victory Army, KGO; Oregon On Guard, KOW.

6:30 p. m.—Freddie Martin's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL; Paul Weiss, KGO, Dr. I. Q. Jim McCallin, KPO, KGO, KJZ; Norman Corwin's Service, KNX, KOIN, KSL.

7:00 p. m.—Vagueness Monroes' Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Lands of the Free, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Lightning Jim, KGO, KEX, KJR.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KGO, KOMO, KGW; Earl Godwin, KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Olatos's Story Dramas, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Lum and Abner, KGO, KEX, KJR; Time Out for Melody, KNX; Leon F. Drews, KOIN.

8:30 p. m.—Cavalcade of America, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Gay Nineties Review, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Major Hoople, KGO, KEX, KJR.

9:00 p. m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KGW, KOMO; News Here and Abroad, KGO; I Was There, KNX, KOIN; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Treasury Star Parade, KJR.

9:30 p. m.—Hollywood Showcase, KNX, KOIN; Hawthorne House, KPO, KOMO; News, KSL, KJR, KEX; Glen Grays Orch., KGO.

10:00 p. m.—Nail Radio Forum, KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Masterworks of Music, KSL; News, KNX; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Henderson La Vere, Piano Team, KGO, KJR; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; War Time Women, KOIN; Ice Follies, KPO.

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

Tuesday

5:00 p. m.—Ray Harrington's Orch., KPO, KGW; Are You a Mis-

take, KEX, KJR; Stars of Today, KGW; Transitions, KOMO.

5:30 p. m.—News, KGO; Voice, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Harry W. Plannery, KNX, KOIN; Here Comes the Band, KEX; Folk Music from Many Lands, KJR; Melodies Moderne, KSL.

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ing Heir, KSL; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KOW; Newspaper of the Air, KOIN; Afternoon Dances, KNX; Musical Portraits, KOMO.

5:30 p. m.—Hobby Lobby, KSL; Glee Roberts Reports, KEX, KGO; Horace Held's Treasure Chest, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Harry W. Plannery, KNX; Folk Music from Many Lands, KJR.

6:00 p. m.—Tommy Riggs, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Battle of the Sores, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Green Hornet, KEX; Dance Time, KJR.

6:30 p. m.—John Neabitt and Meredith Wilson's Orch., KPO, KOMO, KGW; Mystery Prgm., KJR; Cheers from the Camps, KNX, KOIN; News, KEX.

7:00 p. m.—Counter Spy, KJR; Cheers from the Camps, KNX, KOIN; News, KEX; A Date With Judy, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Air Base Hi Jinks, KEX.

7:30 p. m.—Tommy Dorsey's Orch., KPO, KGW, KOMO; Red Ryder, KGO, KJR, KEX; Talks, KSL, KOIN; Time Out for Melody, KNX.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Earl Godwin, KJR, KEX, KGO, KOMO.

8:15 p. m.—Glenn Miller's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Lum and Abner, KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:30 p. m.—Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR; Are You a Missing Heir, KNX, KOIN; Johnny Presents, KPO, KGW, KOMO, News, KSL.

9:00 p. m.—Hobby Lobby, KNX, KSL; News Here and Abroad, KGO; Alvin Bay's Orch., KOIN; Adventures of the Thin Man, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Musicals, KJR.

9:30 p. m.—Over the Top, KGO, KJR; Ray Shield and Co., KOMO; KGW; News, KSL; KEX; American Melody Hour, KNX; Leon F. Drews, KOIN; American Song Shoppe, KPO.

10:00 p. m.—Sing for Dough, KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KGW; News, KNX; Five Star Final, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL.

10:30 p. m.—Sports, KSL, KNX; Harry Owen's Hawaiians, KPO, KOMO; Freddie 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; Dance Orch., KOIN; Reveries, KOMO.

MRS. LUNDEEN FILES

St. Paul, July 27.—(AP)—Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, widow of the late farmer-labor senator from Minnesota, filed with Secretary of State Mike Holm today for the farmer-labor nomination for the United States senate.

Newport News, Va., July 25.—(AP)—Implementing the growing emphasis on air power, the navy will launch the U. S. S. Essex—first aircraft carrier built since the United States entered the war—at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company plant next Friday.

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Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

1. Pen point
2. Reads
3. Individuals
4. Chases
5. Discount
6. At any time
7. Causal
8. Artificial
9. Language
10. Lair
11. Scale
12. Purview food
13. Onlookers at a golf match
14. Rival
15. Malady
16. Fisher for certain fish
17. Wear away
18. Variant
19. Pertumes
20. Settles money upon
21. Stare
22. Hostile to believe
23. Scope of action
24. Made a preliminary wager
25. Lure
26. Conferences
27. Wary by distrust
28. Articles of apparel
29. Nondirectional
30. Rotating place
31. Inmate
32. Quaint
33. Note of the
34. Absent wine receptacle

VALLEY PIONEER ADVISES FARMING BY MOON STAGES

Gold Hill Man Sees Lunar Influence In Many Things—Proved By Observance.

W. P. Bailey, Gold Hill pioneer who came to the Rogue River valley as a miner in 1875 and remained to become a farmer, hunter and prospector, has drawn on his long experience in agriculture to write a pamphlet on "lunar farming." The moon, Bailey claims, exerts a vast influence upon seed germs.

Carrying his doctrine further, Bailey also claims there are certain stages of the moon which are best for cutting of timber, to prevent the worms from eating it. Best game animal hunting is during the last quarter of the old moon, or the first quarter of the new moon," he declares. Best fishing is when the tide is going out.

Molds Humans