MRS. MURDOCK TAKES A CASE

by George Harmon Coxe

Chapter 40

All Together

HESTOR turned and started for the hall. "I'll get my things."

Murdock went over to Nason. "Coming?"

"Certainly not."

Fenner edged up beside Murdock. "Should he?"

"I think so."

"So do I." Fenner moved a little closer to Nason, who backed up a half step. "We've decided you'd better come, too," Fenner said.

He hesitated, smiling a little, his voice neither aggressive or blustering, but quiet and slow spoken. The threat was all in his eyes and his smile meant nothing.

"I have an appointment," Nason said.

Fenner neither moved nor spoke. Nason met that flinty gaze for some seconds and a flush crept upward from his throat, in the end he looked away and spread his hands, palms up.

"That's fine," said Fenner. "We appreciate it."

"Very well. It's quite preposterous, you know, but—"

"Sure," Fenner said. "We know."

Murdock and Hestor rode with Nason, and Fenner drove his own car, following closely until they came to the traffic light at Kenmore Square. Here he pulled up alongside and stuck his head out of the window.

"Look," he said. "Maybe a drink would help, huh? There're a couple of places down the avenue a ways. Any of 'em are okay."

Murdock eyed him disgustedly and nudged Nason. "Go ahead," he said. . . .

When they got out at Ward Allen's place they waited for Fenner. He shook his head at them.

They went up the stairs. It was an old brownstone front which had been remodeled into small, modern apartments, and Ward Allen's quarters were on the second floor. Murdock knocked. When there was no answer he knocked again.

"I hate you for this!"

Murdock turned. Hestor was right beside him, her mouth curved bitterly.

"My, my," said Fenner, and then the door swung open.

Hestor moved her shoulders, put her chin and stepped ahead, Nason following and Murdock and Fenner going in almost together.

Surprise

THE room they entered was large and high-ceilinged and the door opened directly into it. The furniture was comfortable-looking but well worn, masculine in character except for the small couch along one wall. This, while upholstered in some rough fabric, was modeled on the lines of a love seat, and it was here that Delia Stewart and Dean Thorndike were sitting. Joyce had a corner chair and Ward Allen was standing in the center of the room.

Hestor stopped in front of him, taking in the others with a quick, moving glance. Nason stayed with her. Murdock and Fenner took two or three steps; then, as though by some pre-arranged signal they both stopped and wheeled about.

Even then it seemed to Murdock that Fenner had acted a fraction of a second before he did, and he wondered if the detective's reaction was swifter than his own or whether he himself had been so tardy in grasping the significance of finding those four people waiting for them. Whatever the reason it was not until the moment that he asked himself who had opened the door and knew that someone else was here.

Don Raeburn was closing the door when Murdock saw him and he had apparently kept well behind it until they were all in. That there had been no warning from the others was explained by the compact little Mauser he held in his right hand.

The tension hit Murdock all of a sudden and he was aware only of Raeburn and that automatic until the door had closed; then he realized that something had happened to Jack Fenner, and looked at him.

The detective was standing beside him, poised and alert. His thin mouth was disdainful and his eyes were cold and sleepy-looking.

"Well," he said. "Surprise, huh?" He spoke to Murdock without looking at him. "This Raeburn?"

"Don!" Hestor said.

Her cry made Fenner turn. "You'd better sit down," he said. "You, too, Nason."

Raeburn had leaned back against the door, the gun steady in his hand.

"That is good advice. May I suggest that you two gentlemen follow it as well?"

Fenner's topcoat was open. He had his hat in one hand and with the other casually fanned out one side of the coat by putting one fist on his hip.

"Put it down, fella!" he said.

"Stay where you are!" Raeburn said. "I should not like to shoot with all these people here."

Fenner took a slow, forward step. "You're not going to shoot."

"Easy, Jack," Murdock said.

Joyce Murdock came forward in her chair. She remembered all those things Kent had told her about Jack Fenner and knew that they were so. His jaw was like a rock and his upward-slanting eyes were thin and mean.

"No, Jack!" she said. "Please."

Fenner moved again. Raeburn called to him, but the detective kept coming, slowly, with short, shuffling steps. He was scarcely six feet away now and Raeburn set his lips. His fingers tightened. Then the gun roared and jumped upward in his hand.

Fenner stopped. For another second his eyes remained fixed and he made no visible reaction; then he took his fist from his hip and held up the tail of his coat, inspecting it carefully until he found a hole in it. He put his finger through it and looked back at Raeburn.

"Called me, huh?" he said. "And this coat set me back seventy-five bucks."

"The next hole," said Raeburn, "will be in you."

The Party

MURDOCK broke the spell that gripped him and took Fenner's arm. "Sit down, will you? I want to hear what he's got to say." He turned and went over to Joyce.

She looked up, seeing the graveness and censure in his eyes. "I couldn't help it," she said.

"I asked you to keep out of this."

"I know, Kent. But I really was coming here to see Ward and Delia, just as I told you on the telephone. But he"—she glanced at Raeburn—"was waiting for me. I got in the car—"

"There was nothing else she could do," Raeburn said.

Murdock looked at him and then let his eyes touch the others in the room. They all watched Raeburn with varying degrees of uncertainty and alarm; all except Fenner. Murdock sat on the arm of Joyce's chair and waited.

"I've gone through a lot of trouble," Raeburn said, "and much unpleasantness since I left San Baria. I was desperate this morning. I got the idea that I must get Mrs. Murdock out of the way—a stupid idea, I must admit. She convinced me of it although at the time I thought that if I could hide her some place so that she could not identify me I might be able to finish my job."

"What job?" Murdock asked.

"Perry Clarke had some papers. I wanted them."

"You had them," Murdock said. "You mean that envelope? You got it from Delia."

To be continued

Official U. S. Treasury War Bond Quotas for August

Washington, D. C., August 5.—While maintaining a tentative annual level of twelve billion dollars as its goal, the Treasury Department today fixed the August quota for the sale of War Bonds at $815,000,000 as shown by the accompanying map by states.

In lowering the quota from a billion dollars in July to $815,000,000 in August, the Treasury has given recognition to certain factors which may be expected to result in variations in sales over the 12-month period, such as the seasonal character of farm income.

These factors have been taken into account in determining each state's share for the national quota for August and will be given consideration in fixing quotas for subsequent months.

In addition to the state quotas as set out in the map there is a federal payroll allotment quota of $9,750,000 and territorial quotas as follows: Alaska, $760,000; Canal Zone, $213,000; Hawaii, $4,800,000; Puerto Rico, $440,000, and the Virgin Islands, $17,000.

U. S. Treasury Department

GETTING 'GAS' THE HARD WAY—This Australian motorist, determined to drive his car despite the gasoline shortage, trails a charcoal fuel plant almost as big as his car.

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

Friday

5:00—Lewisohn Stadium Concert, KSL; H. V. Kaltenborn, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Afternoon Dances, KNX.

5:30—Bill Sabransky, KOMO; News, KGO; Harry W. Flannery, KNX, KOIN; America Sings, KGW; Folk Music from many Lands, KJR; Passing Parade, KPO.

6:00—Waltz Time, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Listen, America, KEX, KGO; Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KSL; Popular Music, KJR; Accent on Rhythm, KNX; Leon F. Drews, KOIN.

6:30—Plantation Party, KPO, KGW, KOMO; That Brewster Boy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Dinah Shore, KGO, KEX.

7:00—Meet Your Navy, KGO, KEX; Camel Caravan, KSL, KNX, KOIN; People Are Funny, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Aloha Land, KJR.

7:30—Tent Show Tonight, KPO, KGW; Lightning Jim, KGO, KEX, KJR; Musicale, KOMO.

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

8:15—Bobby Byrne's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Melody Magic, KGW; Gibbs & Finney, KGO, KEX, KJR; On Our Bandstand, KPO.

8:30—Songs My Brother Taught Me, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Gang Busters, KEX, KJR; Playhouse, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Remar Rally, KOMO.

9:00—Chuck Wagon Days, KPO, KGW, KOMO; News, KNX; News Here and Abroad, KGO; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Melody Time, KOIN; Roth String Quartet, KSL.

9:30—Moon River, KGW, KOMO; Raffles, KNX, KOIN; News, KSL; Moonlight Sonata, KEX; Charles Harper, KGO.

10:00—Hollywood Legion Stadium Fights, KGO; News, KPO, KGW, KOMO, KNX; Studio Party, KEX; USO, KJR; Five Star Final, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL.

10:30—Sports, KNX, KSL; Betty Martin, KOMO; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; Northwest Bible Institute, KJR; The World Today, KOIN; Roller Derby, KPO.

11:00—Harry Owens' Hawaiians, KGW; This Moving World, KEX; Folk Music, KJR;; News, KNX; Reveries, KOMO.

Saturday

5:00—Little Blue Playhouse, KGO, KEX; Harry Owens' Hawaiians, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Soldiers With Wings, KNX, KOIN; Dance Time, KJR.

5:30—Velvet Music, KGW, KOMO; Swop Night, KGO, KJR, KEX; News Review, KNX, KOIN.

6:00—Your Hit Parade, KSL; National Barn Dance, KPO, KGW, KOMO; USO Program, KNX, KOIN; Commonwealth Club Program, KGO; Popular Music, KJR.

6:30—Hollywood Whispers, KNX; Grant Park Concert, KPO, KGW, KOMO; News, KEX; Man Your Battle Station, KGO; Melody Lane, KJR; Leon Drews, KOIN.

7:00—Sports Newsreel, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Tune Out Time, KGO, KEX, KJR.

7:30—Grand Ole Opry, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Red Ryder, KGO, KJR, KEX; Accent On Rhythm, KNX; Ninth Corps Quartermaster, KSL.

8:00—News of the World, KNX, KSL, KGW, KOMO; Earl Godwin, KGO, KJR, KEX; Melody Time, KOIN.

8:15—Sam Donahue's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL; Gibbs & Finney, KGO, KJR, KEX; Olmsted's Story Dramas, KPO, KGW, KOMO.

8:30—Hospitality Time, KPO, KGW, KOMO; The Whistler, KNX, KOIN; Ray Heatherton's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; Charles Dant's Orch., KPO; Arthur Gaeth, KSL.

9:00—News, KOMO; New Prescott Show, KGO, KEX, KJR; Your Hit Parade, KNX, KOIN; Dance Orch., KGW; Ice Follies, KPO; Dance Tempos, KSL.

9:30—Dance Orch., KGO; Starlight Souvenirs, KGW; News, KSL, KJR, KEX; Sports Scripts, KOMO.

10:00—Musical Steelmakers, KGO, KEX, KJR; Erwin Yeo, KSL; News, KOIN, KGW, KOMO.

10:30—Freddy Martin's Orch., KGO, KJR; Harry Owens' Hawaiians, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Sports, KNX, KSL.

11:00—Organ Music, KPO, KGW; Martha Meeks, KSL, KOIN; This Moving World, KJR, KEX; News, KGO, KNX; Evening Reveries, KOMO.

Scio, Ore., Aug. 7—(AP)—Sale of the Scio State Bank to Trans-America corporation was announced today by E. D. Myers, cashier of the local institution. It will become an affiliate of the First National Bank of Portland.

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

STRANGE AS IT SEEMS by JOHN HIX

COLONIAL DENTISTRY

Prior to the Revolutionary War, Paul Revere, Boston silversmith, took up "mechanical dentistry." This crude wiring in of artificial teeth would not make it possible for the patient to eat any more easily, but it tended to improve the appearance and eliminate sibilant whistlings in the speech—as one of his newspaper advertisements stated Revere made a false tooth or two for Joseph Warren, Revolutionary patriot killed at Bunker Hill, and later Revere became the first dentist in history to identify a body by his handiwork. Warren's corpse was dug up nearly a year after the battle and Revere had to identify his friend's remains.

Big Applegate

Big Applegate, Aug. 7—(Spl.)—A meeting of importance to every local residents will be held at the Upper Applegate grange hall, Saturday, Aug. 8, when A. D. McReynolds of Medford, state fire warden, will organize civilian fire fighters for this community. The meeting will begin at 8 o'clock, and everyone in the community is urged to attend.

Mrs. Floyd McKee was released from the Community hospital in Medford Wednesday having undergone an operation there two weeks ago. She will remain at the home of her father, W. D. Beebe, at Central Point while recuperating.

Mrs. Edith Marlott has returned to her home in Santa Rosa after spending two weeks here with her sister, Mrs. Leon Offenbacher. Her daughter, Miss Vivian Marlott, is spending the summer here.

Mrs. W. E. Haskins was expected to return Wednesday from Pekin, Ill., where she has spent the last two months with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Helfenstein, who were ill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Helfenstein, are much improved in health.

Mrs. Roy Myers left recently for Kansas, where she will spend a month visiting her daughter.

Miss Clarice Rivers of Medford, who is known here, where she frequently visits her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Rivers, caretakers at camp Applegate, left recently for Portland, where she will be employed.

Mrs. Lee Port, Jr., of Toledo, Ore., is spending several days here with Mr. and Mrs. Lee Post, Sr.

A. R. McDaniel of Weaverville, Calif., is spending some time in the upper Applegate section in the interest of mine holdings in northern California. Mr. McDaniel is representing Mrs. Alice P. Santon of San Francisco, who will arrive soon to personally investigate her property.

Word has been received here that Mr. and Mrs. Ed Word of Spokane lost their entire household possessions in a fire destroying the home which they were renting. Mrs. Word is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Offenbacher.

Phoenix

Phoenix, Aug. 7.—(Spl.)—Mrs. Berthold Hearn and Bobby Hearn of Portland, are visiting Mr. Andrew Hearn this week.

Mrs. Jessie M. Wright is visiting her daughter Mrs. Joe Micha in Klamath Falls.

Miss Irene Stedman, Miss Patricia Furry and Sgt. Charles Allen spent Sunday at Lake O' Woods.

Miss Margie Kettlewell of Oakland, Calif., who has been visiting at the R. A. Furry home returned home Saturday night.

Joining the naval reserve and leaving for training Thursday is a Phoenix student, Frank Richey, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Richey.

Bob Walker of Medford, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Briscoe, leaves this week for Portland to be inducted into the armed forces.

Lyle Schlund of St. Paul, Neb., arrived Friday to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Schlund.

Mrs. Eldred Colver left Tuesday for New York City to visit her sister, Mrs. Harry C. Jaecker and Mr. Jaecker. En route to the eastern city she will stop off at Little Rock, Ark., to visit her husband who is in training there.

Cleve Walker visited his parents a short while earl; this week before returning to his job near Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

Mrs. W. D. Barnes and daughter, Mary Jean Barnes, are vacationing at Crescent City for a few days.

Mrs. E. J. White of Portland is visiting her mother and friends this week.

BEACH PATROLLED

Santa Monica, Calif., Aug. 7—(AP)—Patrols of 1,350 volunteers working in six hour shifts are keeping watch along Santa Monica's beaches between sundown and dawn to prevent the possible landing of saboteurs.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Tool for piercing holes
4. Fishes
9. High mountain
12. Mottled appearance in wood
13. Biblical character
14. Genus of the blue grass
15. Sea eagle
16. Froth
17. Acknowledge
18. Things added
21. Term of address
22. Scythe handle
23. Place for making or storing weapons of war
25. Protective garment
30. Small mound of earth
31. Short jacket
33. Flock of ducks: archaic
34. Sailor
35. More certain
37. Golf instructor
38. Paradise
40. Rescue
41. In what way
42. Spanish gentleman
44. Epistles
46. Garters
48. Feminine name
49. Deciding
54. Wonder and fear
56. Town in New York state
57. Long narrow inlet
58. And not
59. Mother-of-pearl
60. Entirely
61. Affirmative
62. Very thin
63. Ocean

DOWN
1. Region
2. Tidings
3. Allow the use of
4. Foreordains
5. Scientific or artistic implements
6. Close friend
7. American operatic soprano
8. Brownish pigment
9. Mark showing an omission
10. Softly
11. Broad open vessel
19. Danish fiord
20. Bugle call
22. Great aversion and repugnance
24. Settles money upon
25. Witness
26. Elocutionist
27. Those who render romantic night music
28. Pertaining to the space between a bird's eye and bill
32. At no time hereafter
36. Lawyer's fee
39. Knot
43. Covers with a certain metal again
45. Number
47. Mysterious Biblical word
50. Cereal
51. Attendant on Cleopatra
52. Egyptian river
53. Festival
54. Some
55. Misery

L	A	R		M	A	C	E		P	L	A	N
I	R	E		A	R	I	L		L	A	D	E
V	E	G	E	T	A	T	E		A	T	O	P
I	T	E	R		L	E	G	A	T	E		
D	E	L	A	Y		D	I	V	E	R	G	E
		A	S	E	A		T	A	N		A	S
I	N	T	E	N	S	E				P	U	T
S	E	E	D		E	G	O		G	A	Z	E
L	E	D				G	R	E	A	S	E	S
A	D		S	P	A		E	R	R	S		
M	Y	S	T	E	R	Y		S	N	O	R	T
		P	U	N	I	S	H		E	V	O	E
E	R	I	N		S	A	U	N	T	E	R	S
T	A	R	T		E	Y	R	E		R	A	T
A	G	E	S		S	E	L	E		S	L	Y

Solution Of Yesterday's Puzzle

HAP HOPPER, Washington Correspondent—False Note

Edited by Drew Pearson and Bob Allen

LI'L ABNER—A McSwine Among Pearls ! !

By Al Capp

THE NEBBS—A Big Night

By Hess