

Lena Hates Men

by MARGOT NEVILLE



Clarice Dodd, wealthy middle-aged widow, lives in Sydney, Australia. Her nephew and niece, Felix and Joyce Burke, live with her. Two girls, Ellen Foster and Denise Deschamps, are house guests. Frequent visitors include Bill and Brenda Wheatley, brother and sister; their friend Michael Rawson; Max Hurst, an old friend of Clarice's; and Dr. Cyril Nugent, her physician. One night, Clarice dies from an overdose of sleeping tablets known as second. When her eccentric maid, Lena, insists that she had only one tablet in her possession that night, Inspector Grogan of the police investigates. Lena claims that both Felix and Dr. Nugent quarreled with Clarice that night. Then, Joyce suffers a collapse when Denise threatens to give the police damaging evidence against her. Late next afternoon, Lena is found stabbed to death in her room. Within a short time Grogan is called to question everyone. He learns that at about the time of the murder, Felix was playing tennis with the Wheatleys, but left the court to look for lost balls. When he returned, there was a spot of blood on his shirt. He says he scratched his hand on a rose bush, but Grogan is skeptical.

CHAPTER XXVIII

GROGAN questioned Brenda and Bill next.

"What did you do when Mr. Burke went searching for the tennis balls?"

"We stayed on the court," Brenda answered promptly.

"How long was he away?"

"About five minutes, wouldn't you say, Bill?"

"About that."

"Were you together for those five minutes?"

"Yes, of course."

"What happened when Mr. Burke came back?"

Brenda hesitated. "What—just what I told you before."

"I'm asking you to tell me again."

"I said to him, 'There's some blood on your shirt,' and he looked at it and said that he'd scratched his hand."

"Did he show you the scratch?"

"No, he didn't. He said, 'I don't feel like playing tennis more. I'm going up to have a shower.'"

"How much blood was there on his shirt?"

"There was only a little."

"Did you see it, Mr. Wheatley?" Grogan asked.

"No, I did not," Bill answered, with precision. "I was up the other end of the court and I heard nothing and saw nothing."

"Did you see Mr. Burke hunting for the balls?"

"No, I lit a cigarette while I was waiting and I was looking over the wall."

"Did you join your sister and him when he came back?"

"No, he went in almost at once. She and I knocked a few balls about till we heard the row from the house."

THE door opened and a constable put his head in and spoke to Grogan.

"The young lady's back from the vet, sir."

Denise appeared. She stood on a stool in the doorway and gave a hurried glance around. Someone must have told her what had happened, because she started to speak at once.

"Inspector, you can't want to question me. I wasn't even—"

Grogan, interrupting, called to the constable behind her. "Mac, go over to Hurst's house and bring him back." Then to Denise: "Now what is that you're saying?"

"You can't want to question me."

AIRMAIL REVENUE SHARPLY REDUCED

Washington, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Northwest Air Lines today became the eighth air carrier in 13 months to have a rate of 0.3 mills per pound of mail per mile set by the Civil Aeronautics board.

The new system of rates, from airport to airport, involved the company's routes between Chicago, Seattle and Portland, Ore.; Fargo, N. D., and Winnipeg, Man.; and St.

Tarawa Times Features Late War News



The Marines on Tarawa get the latest war and home front news in the "Tarawa Times" bulletin board "newspaper" right off the wires on the newly invaded Central Pacific Isle.

NIPPONESE DEAD ON BOUGAINVILLE LEFT UNBURIED

Killed or Wounded Sons of Emperor Ignored by Comrades—Yanks Astounded

By James Lowery

United Press Staff Correspondent

Bougainville, Dec. 13.—(U.P.)—The Japanese army, on this island at least, has ignored Nipponese burial traditions.

Here it makes little difference to the enemy what happens to a soldier once he is wounded or killed. Once a Japanese soldier falls wounded, he is left to starve and become a pile of bleached bones under the rays of a blistering South Pacific sun.

I had heard before that his Imperial Majesty believes his men are expendable. But I never realized until today how far this theory is extended.

Jap Area Inspected

Shortly after I landed at the new American air strip at Torokina, I was invited to accompany a navy doctor and marine intelligence officer on an inspection tour of a Japanese bivouac area near the front lines. A jeep carried our party over amazing, good Seabee-built roads for two miles. Then we stripped to the waist and with machetes hacked our way through the thickest jungle imaginable.

The machete was our only weapon. I asked the marine officer if we didn't need more.

"Oh, it's not necessary," he said. "The Japs are two or three miles from here. However, there might be a few snipers around."

The doctor warned me to remove my upper clothing, or else I might return with a horrible odor. I soon saw what he meant.

Nose Is Guide

We found the Japanese camp by following our noses. We discovered nine dead enemy soldiers—dead beyond recognition except as humans. We knew they were Japanese because we could identify the soggy clothing still swathed around what once were arms and legs.

Not even the doctor was able to bear the sight of one corpse. Turning away, he said:

"I thought I had the stomach for such things, but that one gets me."

The other eight corpses literally were merely piles of bones. All of them apparently were victims of our artillery or booby traps. Whatever killed them, it was very effective. Parts of bodies were scattered over a wide area.

Few Captured

In this area a Seabee, armed only with an axe, took a Japanese prisoner. The Jap was so weak from lack of food and water that it was impossible for him to offer resistance. Nevertheless, the Seabee was thoroughly bawled out for leaving his gun behind.

That Jap was one of a few captured on Bougainville. Thus far 2,082 have been killed here. Not one American on this island is adverse to killing Japs, but they all dislike burying them. U. S. soldiers can't believe they are fighting civilized, educated men when they see the horrible fate of the Japanese dead and wounded.

Benito's Congrats Telegraphed Tojo

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Benito Mussolini observed the second anniversary of the signing of the Japan-Germany-Italy military alliance by sending a telegram of "congratulations" to Prime Minister Hideki Tojo, Tokyo radio reported today.

The broadcast said the wire "expressed the determination of the Italian leader to carry the war to final victory together with the other axis powers."

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.

NEW GENERATOR ADDS TO OUTPUT AT BONNEVILLE

Tenth and Final Unit Turns 74,000 Horsepower Into Lines; Total 518,400 Kw.

By John W. Dunlap

United Press Staff Correspondent

Bonneville, Ore., Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Power-hungry war plants of the Pacific northwest yesterday received a huge increase of electrical energy when the 10th and final generating unit at Bonneville dam was completed, marking the end of 10 years of construction.

Governors Earl Snell of Oregon and Arthur Langle of Washington headed a delegation of officials at the afternoon ceremony. Maj. General David McCoach, Jr., commanding officer of the 9th Service Command, Fort Douane, Utah, gave the signal to turn on the generator, which added 74,000 horsepower to the dam's output—making a new total of 518,000 kilowatts.

Over Million Kw

Combined with Grand Coulee dam higher up the mighty Columbia river, the electrical output from the two powerhouses runs well over one million kilowatts, of which industrial users, chiefly war plants, are taking 800,000 kilowatts.

Bonneville dam was started in September, 1933, with the aim to create depression time jobs. The coming of war turned the project into a means of supplying electrical energy to mushrooming war plants to create many thousands more jobs throughout the northwest. The U. S. army engineers built the project.

Vast Cost

The dam consists of two parts, the spillway dam between the Washington shore and Bradford Island and the powerhouse and navigation lock between the south side of Bradford Island and the Oregon shore.

Giving some idea of the magnitude of the \$81,000,000 project, the powerhouse and navigation facilities cost \$45,000,000, and the spillway, fishways and other features about \$36,000,000. The original cost estimate was \$43,000,000.

GERMAN ROCKETS WEIGH 12 TONS

Zurich, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Diplomatic sources claiming to possess inside information came up today with a new version of Germany's boasted secret weapon—a 45-foot rocket shell weighing 12 tons and effective over 20 square miles.

The shell's terrific effect results from its charge of compressed nitric acid, informants said. They acknowledged, however, that all but two tons of the gross weight of the shell were required for the rocket apparatus and fuel.

Though it has a theoretical range of 160 miles, the shell so far in tests has been projected only 35 to 40 miles, informants said.

They reported that the Germans were building catapults powered by electricity and steam along the French channel coast with the intention of launching rockets on Britain to disrupt allied invasion preparations.

CALIFORNIA TO SCAN FARMER DEFERMENTS

Sacramento, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Local draft boards have been ordered to review the deferments of all unmarried agricultural workers between 18 and 25 who have been placed previously in classes P-C and S-C, state selective service headquarters announced today.

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:

Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:

KALE (MBS) 1330, Portland
KEX (NBC-MBS) 1190, Portland
KGA (NBC-MBS & MBS) 1310
Spokane: KGO (NBC-MBS) 810
San Francisco: KJW (NBC-MBS) 820, Portland
Seattle: KSK (CBS) 1070
Los Angeles: KDA (NBC-MBS) 430
Denver: KOIN (CBS) 870, Portland
KOMO (NBC-MBS) 1050
Seattle: KPO (NBC-MBS) 680
San Francisco: KSL (CBS) 1190
Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Wednesday

5:00 p. m.—Glen Drake, CBS; Terry and Pirates, BN.

5:15 p. m.—Superman, MBS; Rhythm and Romance, NBC; Dick Tracy, BN.

5:30 p. m.—Jack Armstrong, BN; 4:45 p. m.—Louis F. Lochner, NBC; Norman Nesbitt, MBS; Capt. Midnight, BN.

6:00 p. m.—Eddie Cantor, NBC; Gabriel Heatter, MBS; Band Wagon, BN.

6:15 p. m.—Gracie Fields, MBS.

6:30 p. m.—Mr. District Attorney, NBC; Jack Carson, CBS; Soldiers With Wings, MBS; Spotlight Band, BN.

6:45 p. m.—Harry Wmner, sports, BN.

7:00 p. m.—Kay Kyser's Kollege, NBC; Moments in Music, CBS; John B. Hughes, MBS; Raymond Gram Swing, BN.

7:15 p. m.—Pulton Courier, MBS.

7:30 p. m.—Lone Ranger, MBS.

8:00 p. m.—Fred Waring, NBC; Roy Porter, news, BN; I Love a Mystery, CBS; Main Line, MBS.

8:15 p. m.—Pietwood Lawton, commentator, NBC; Lulu and Abner, BN; Harry James, CBS.

8:30 p. m.—Beat the Band, NBC; Battle of Sexes, BN; Dr. Christian, CBS; Bulldog Drummond, MBS.

8:45 p. m.—Joseph C. Harsch, CBS.

9:00 p. m.—Mr. and Mrs. North, NBC; Sammy Kaye, CBS; News, MBS.

9:30 p. m.—Scramby Amby, NBC; General Barrows, MBS.

9:45 p. m.—Pulton Lewis, Jr., MBS.

10:00 p. m.—Voice of a Nation, NBC; Eddy Howard, CBS; MBS.

11:00 p. m.—Biltmore Hotel, NBC; Halls of Montezuma, MBS.

11:30 p. m.—Terry and Pirates, BN.

11:45 p. m.—Glen Drake, CBS.

12:00 p. m.—Dick Tracy, BN; 8:45 p. m.—Jack Armstrong, BN.

12:15 p. m.—Bill Henry, CBS.

12:30 p. m.—Music Hall, NBC; Major Bowes, CBS; Gabriel Heatter, MBS.

12:45 p. m.—Gracie Fields, MBS.

1:00 p. m.—Bob Burns, NBC; Spotlight Band, BN; Dinah Shore, CBS.

1:15 p. m.—Hour of Song, MBS.

1:30 p. m.—Harry Wmner, sports, BN.

1:45 p. m.—Abbott and Costello, BN.

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