

MURDER IN FERRY COMMAND

BY A. W. O'BRIEN

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TRAGIC NEWS

CHAPTER XIII
 Three days after Carole Fiske's escape to St. John's were the longest Clyde Dawson had ever known. A blizzard was rolling in over northeastern Newfoundland and it was already "ceiling zero" at the airport where he must land.

Shortly after 3:30 in the morning of the fourth day, the telephone awakened Dawson. An Eastern Air Command officer informed him crisply that the weather was clearing and a plane was ready to take off.

By noon Dawson was interviewing the veteran captain in command of the St. John's port. The officer's face was grim. "The Fort Glangarry was torpedoed off Cape Race, Newfoundland, two nights ago!"

Dawson grasped the arms of his chair, his knuckles showing white. "Are there any survivors reported?" His voice sounded strange to his own ears.

"Yes, but not many. There was only one woman, in fact—a major's wife en route to join her husband here."

A numbing sensation of tragedy enveloped Dawson as he rose, with a mumbled word of thanks, and left the office.

If only he had revealed his identity sooner, Carole Fiske would not have continued to Newfoundland on her pathetic search for Darwin Lemoy and her brother. It was useless for Dawson to argue that Carole's actions had left him no other choice than to regard her as an enemy agent. Somehow he should have gleaned some inkling of the facts before Paul Dixel, in his confession, had disclosed that Bernard Skrol—really Bernard Fiske—was Carole's brother and the Dixel was her half-brother.

The mother was German and had married twice. Her first husband, father of the Dixel, had died shortly after coming to the United States from Germany. Her second husband, Fiske, was of German-American stock.

The two Dixel boys and Bernard Fiske had become enthusiastic Bund members in Chicago. With the outbreak of the war abroad, the girl repeatedly protested to them about their continuing Bund activities. When her brother Bernard enlisted and went to Newfoundland her letters to him were returned, and she suspected he had enlisted under a false name. That was why she had not been notified of his death.

The Dixel was certain she would not betray them to the authorities for two reasons. One was that she would incriminate her brother. But a still better reason was Darwin Lemoy.

She had met Darwin while he was still a college student in Chicago. There were Advanced Thinker groups formed in college circles as a part of Nazi strategy and Darwin had been enticed into attending the one organized by the Dixel.

Dawson and Carole Fiske grew friendly. In those carefree days of peace his Bund-inspired, pro-Nazi views didn't affect their relationship. When Darwin went abroad to play hockey for the Czechoslovakian team in 1935, letters to influential persons had resulted in an invitation for him to enjoy a carefully directed tour of Germany at the expense of the Reich. He returned to the United States an admirer of Hitler.

However, the invasion of Poland and the temporary liaison of Germany and Russia had a shattering effect on Darwin's beliefs. This became more noticeable as America drifted steadily toward the brink of war. His change of heart became known to the Dixel and many stormy scenes developed when Darwin asserted their first duty was to America.

As the lend-lease program set bombers flowing in increasing number to Britain, a secret Nazi-control system was devised to secure all possible data on planes and weather through a chain of reporting posts. Darwin was in on the preliminary planning, but later rebelled.

Carole Fiske had appealed to Darwin to save her brother from being drawn deeper into the spy ring. The Dixel knew this, Paul revealed, and shadowed her to an airport where she was seen bidding farewell to Darwin.

They then lost track of him until a coded cable from Pvt. Bernard Fiske, alias Skrol, told Darwin was in St. John's and had already been talking to him along lines definitely opposed to their "work."

Paul Dixel had rushed to St. John's and arrived the day after the murders. Darwin had found Fiske cultivating the friendship of a Ferry Command official in an important post. When approached by Darwin, Fiske boldly admitted he was after some technical data that the official had.

Fiske told all this to Paul Dixel upon the latter's arrival. That night Dixel trailed the Ferry Command official and Fiske to the speakeasy and was amazed to see Darwin Lemoy slip in after the pair. Obviously Lemoy was shadowing them without seeing Dixel on the same mission.

In his confession Dixel stated that Darwin could not have been more than halfway up the stairs when a shot sounded from a second floor room. A moment later he saw two figures—whom he identified as Darwin and Fiske—struggling against the drawn shade. Another shot was heard and Fiske dropped.

The rest Dawson knew already. Darwin had run from the speakeasy into the arms of a constable. On him was found the

gun that had killed the two, and the official's wallet. In face of other disclosures it was evident to Dawson that Darwin had intended returning the plans to the Ferry Command, and that he pocketed the gun which Dixel had given Fiske to clear Carole's brother of a murder-suicide stigma.

In view of all this there was only one course for Darwin Lemoy to follow on being captured—absolute silence. Otherwise the whole story would come out, including his own association with the ring.

Back in Chicago, consternation had followed the discovery that the highly secret filing cabinet had been tampered with. A fingerprint was found, and it was decided to investigate the spy ring personnel to find its owner.

Dixel was ordered to secure a set of Lemoy's prints, but his only opportunity came after the hanging, when the body went to the vault. He had to work fast, and he found it impossible to unbend the fingers and work in the cramped, ghostly quarters. So he hacked off the hand. But, as Dawson had deduced, Dixel had been forced to hurry off when the investigator left St. John's suddenly.

Back in Chicago, John Dixel hadn't dared tell Carole Fiske about her brother and Darwin Lemoy. If she had known that Bernard was dead and Darwin was in prison awaiting execution, she might have confessed everything in the hope of getting Darwin off with a jail sentence. So, to explain Darwin's silence, John had faked a story that Darwin had killed Paul Dixel in an argument over the spy ring and was hiding from the police.

There it was, a superb case, thoroughly ironed out, Dawson had started with a snapshot of a girl and a piece of beefsteak on a hanged man's heel, and uncovered a major spy ring. But there was no satisfaction now.

(To Be Concluded)

HOLD EVERYTHING!



"Crook"

Read The Classified Page

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- NO RED TAPE

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OREGON WOOLEN STORE

Klamath's Credit Clothiers 8TH and MAIN



Out Our Way By J. R. Williams

THE BURIED PAST

7-17



Red Ryder



GOOD START—FOR ALL BUT HOOPLE

Our Boarding House With Major Hoople



Little Orphan Annie



7-17

By Fred Harman

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



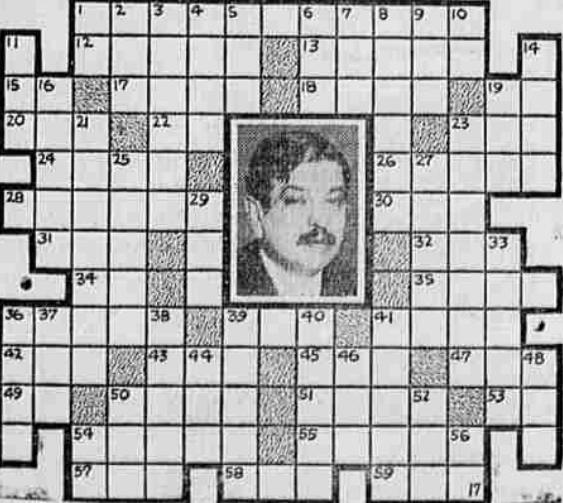
HUMAN BLOOD TRANSFUSED INTO ANY ANIMAL EXCEPT THE HIGHER APES CAUSES A HOSTILE REACTION! IN GORILLAS, CHIMPANZES AND ORANGS, IT MANGLES HARMONIOUSLY.



SET-UP REVERSED HAS THE OPPOSITE MEANING... SET-UP... UP-SET!

FRENCH LEADER

- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 Pictured French leader.
 - 12 Appear.
 - 13 Coral isle.
 - 15 Upon.
 - 17 Body of water.
 - 18 Yabby.
 - 19 Mother.
 - 20 Friend.
 - 22 Symbol for tellurium.
 - 23 Brown.
 - 24 Area.
 - 26 Gay.
 - 28 Compendium.
 - 30 Self.
 - 31 Sister (abbr.).
 - 32 Decay.
 - 34 Court (abbr.).
 - 35 Eggs.
 - 36 Explosion.
 - 39 Sovereign (abbr.).
 - 41 Newspaper paragraph.
 - 42 Long fish.
 - 43 Rodent.
 - 45 Electrified.
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- ARTHURMACARTHUR**
EATERASPIRE
BARBARAISAAM
ANNAPRATETU
STIVILLODS
TERNARTHUR
NITRILIPART
DIPELLOLLE
TRESILLAMA
ESTEOMINBI
ANTICISTEER
BATAINPENSULA
- VERTICAL**
- 1 Apex.
 - 14 Numerous.
 - 16 He collaborates with the —.
 - 18 Disfigure.
 - 21 Sensible.
 - 23 Cavalryman.
 - 25 Birds' homes.
 - 27 Species of heron.
 - 29 Sesame.
 - 33 Shy.
 - 36 Animal.
 - 37 Permit.
 - 38 Characteristic.
 - 39 Pole.
 - 40 His headquarters are at —, France.
 - 41 Unstable.
 - 44 Mimic.
 - 46 Native metal.
 - 48 Canine.
 - 50 Article.
 - 52 Happy.
 - 54 Centimeter (abbr.).
 - 56 Music note.



Freckles and His Friends



7-17

By Blosser



Wash Tubbs

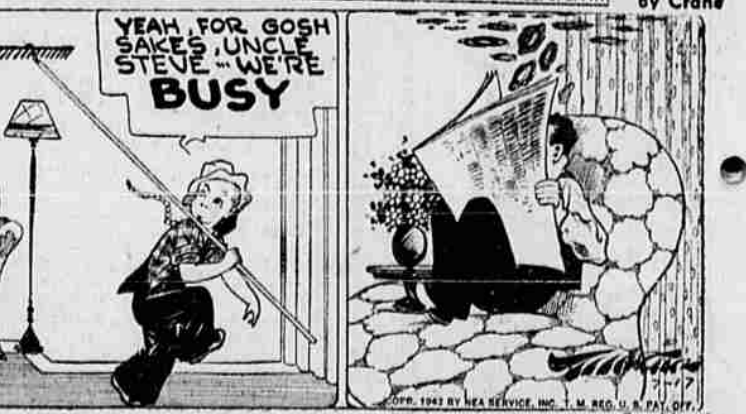


7-17

By Crane



Boots and Her Buddies



7-17

By Martin



Alloy Oop



7-17

By V. T. Hamlin