

WOMEN WON'T TALK

BY RENE RYERSON MART

SOLUTION
CHAPTER XXVI

I TURNED my neck cautiously. It would be sore for a week. And to think I was going to have the big-handed ape for a grandson-in-law!

Mattison had collapsed on the davenport, his head between his hands. Suddenly he lifted his head and looked at me warily, a new suspicion hardening his eyes. "Where's the proof—have you any proof of this?"

I nodded emphatically. "I'll show it to you," I admitted grudgingly. "First, though, you'd better get rid of that poisoned cocktail. Throw it in the fireplace."

He started to rise, then settled back in his seat and looked at me shamefacedly. "It isn't poisoned. I was just bluffing."

It was my turn to glare at him. After a moment I snapped, "Hand it here, then, I need it."

He got up and handed me the drink and stood there watching me drink it, still with that shameful little boy look on his face. "I guess there isn't anything I can say to you," he ventured at last. "You'll never forgive me."

I set the cocktail glass down and looked up at him, six feet of dominant, stubborn, humbled manhood. Michael had been big. I like big men. I sighed.

"Did you mean what you said about marrying Kathy?"

He stared at me. "Do you think I'd have taken a chance on killing you to clear her if I didn't mean it?"

I felt my neck. I guess he meant it all right. "It would be awkward not speaking, wouldn't it, if you're going to be in the family?"

I said thoughtfully. "I suppose I'll have to forgive you—on one condition."

"What's that?"

"That you let me handle this affair from now on."

But that took a bit of arguing when he learned my plan. He said hotly that it was inhuman to let Kathy stay in jail when I could—

"Oh, rot," I broke in impatiently. "Jail won't hurt Kathy. And it may take some of the arrogance out of her. You'll thank me for that one of these days—if you marry her."

He grinned then, a slow wicked grin, made a sudden lunge, picked me up bodily and hugged me tight.

OVER Clint's shoulder I saw the living room door open. George Baker stood on the threshold.

It occurred to me then that Clint and I had rather overlooked George in our little scheme.

George came in trying to wipe consternation from his face. "I brought the lawyer, Mrs. Kraik. I thought there were some things you'd better tell him before he sees Kathy."

It was that smug, outraged look on his face that gave me the idea. I simply had to save Kathy from being grateful to him the rest of her life.

"It's no use, George. Kathy won't see the lawyer—unless you release her from her engagement."

"I can't—I told her that yesterday. How would it look?"

"George! She'll have to tell everything to save her own neck. And she won't unless you release her."

"Everything—" George looked at me uncertainly. He was willing. I waited for him to sit down.

"There's something you still don't know about that elopement of Derek's and Kathy's, George."

It wasn't hard for me to look ashamed. I really was. "Walter and I found them that time and brought her back home—but we didn't find them until the next day . . . you understand."

Well, that did it. George departed. I had seen no need to tell him that the night Derek had spent with Kathy he had been too busy dosing her with bicarbonate of soda for an acute attack of indigestion to make love to her. It was a very sick girl and a very frightened boy Walter and I had found in that hotel room.

DEPUTY SHAW looked at me soberly when the day came that I could tell him the truth. "You know there are a number of things I could do, Mrs. Kraik. A number of things that in the line of duty I should do."

"Yes—you could put me in jail for suppressing evidence, for helping a murderer escape the penalty for her crime. But now that she is dead—" I crushed the telegram from Will Grady in my hand. "Are you going to?"

"Damn it, no!"

So he took the little black shawl with the bullet hole in one corner to the sheriff, the sheriff gave a statement to the press, and that was that.

For it was Margaret who killed Derek. Margaret who took the incriminating wallet and money and ring from his body and buried them in the woods that night; Margaret, still wearing the shawl, who blundered into me on the path in the dark; Margaret who tried to take her own life by drinking the sleeping medicine.

Poor Margaret, who must have been so torn between divided loyalties that she temporarily lost all reason. Margaret, whose fear of what Derek might do to Kathy was balanced on the same side of the scales as her fear of what the law might do to Derek. Margaret, the faithful, who could not bear the thought that harm or the

threat of harm should come to any of the Kraiks, and Margaret who dreaded to see the wild, tempestuous Derek become a shifty, hunted thing. To her deranged and clouded mind, there must have appeared only one solution. She'd seen the gun in my desk drawer that day when she moved my letter files. She carried it under her black shawl when she went out to tell Derek goodbye. She shot him through the heart when he bent to kiss her.

God rest her poor old soul!

THE END

The German counterpart of the American jeep has been proved inferior to our jeep, since it hits a top speed of only 30 miles per hour and balks at rough terrain that a jeep takes in stride at 50.

Skagway, Alaska, now famed for its beautiful gardens, was the chief port of entry during the Klondike gold rush.

Public roads administration's latest figures show that driving restrictions have cut motor fuel tax collections by approximately 36 per cent in a group of 29 states.

Priorities and government funds are being sought to relieve the menace to mechanical and tire wear due to chuck holes in the crumbling hard-surfaced highways.

Clear, Durable Beauty

OLD-FASHIONED MISS TO ADD FRESH CHARM

7515

by Alice Brooks

Always on the look-out for something new and eye-catching? Imagine this dainty combination of embroidery and filet crochet on your linen! And how easy it is to do! Pattern 7515 contains a transfer pattern of a 7 by 17 and two 54 by 144 inch motifs; chart and directions for crochet; stitches; materials needed.

To obtain this pattern send 11 cents in coin to The Herald and News, Household Arts Dept., Klamath Falls. Do not send this picture, but keep it and the number for reference. Be sure to wrap coin securely, as a loose coin often slips out of the envelope. Requests for patterns should read, "Send pattern No. . . . to . . . followed by your name and address."

HOLD EVERYTHING!

by William Ferguson

MARTIN VAN BUREN WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT BORN IN THE UNITED STATES! ALL OF HIS PREDECESSORS WERE BORN BEFORE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND THUS WERE BORN AS BRITISH SUBJECTS.

IN FLORIDA, CATTLE IN THE BACKWATER AREAS ARE TURNING INTO "SEA-COWS" . . . WADING BACK-DEEP INTO STREAMS TO FEED ON WATER HYACINTHS.

ANSWER: Yes, the finger is "one of the five terminal members of the hand, including the thumb."

NEXT: Chewing a black-market steak.

NAVAL AIR UNIT INSIGNE

HORIZONTAL

1 Depicted in insigne of Squadron 6, U. S. Naval aviation

7 Places of confinement

13 Exist

14 Rocky pinnacle

15 Ever (contr.)

16 Large tub

17 Soaks hemp

19 Man of great wealth

21 Rant

22 Slumber

24 Interdict

25 Capital of Oregon

26 Sun god

27 Moccasin

28 More perfect

31 It is worn on the upper left

35 Fourth Arabian caliph

36 Oriental dwelling

37 Genus of cuttlefishes

Answer to Previous Puzzle

OSCAR LEVANT

VERTICAL

1 Iron rods

2 Russian city

3 Measure

4 That one

5 Negative prefix

6 Seize

7 Laborer

8 Rebel (colloq.)

9 Symbol for iridium

10 Ellipsoidal

11 Church part

12 Stalk

18 Withered

20 Soul (Ezra)

21 Speed contest

23 Standard of value

25 Salt

27 Hymn

28 Right of precedence

29 Rubber tree

30 Tear

32 Dutch city

33 Mover's truck

34 Bitter vetch

38 Frostings

39 Talent

41 John (Gaelic)

42 Require

45 Berets

46 Too

47 Restrain

48 Coins

49 Senior (abbr.)

50 Levantine

52 Prohibit

53 Enthusiasm

54 Network

56 Perched

57 Golf teacher

60 Him

62 Half-em

Out Our Way

By J. R. Williams

Our Boarding House

With Major Hoople



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50 Levantine

52 Prohibit

53 Enthusiasm

54 Network

56 Perched

57 Golf teacher

60 Him

62 Half-em

FUNNY BUSINESS



"My husband rigged it up—it makes the baby think we're walking the floor with her and she sleeps soundly all night long!"

Red Ryder



Red Ryder



Red Ryder



Freckles and His Friends



Freckles and His Friends



Freckles and His Friends



Wash Tubbs



Wash Tubbs



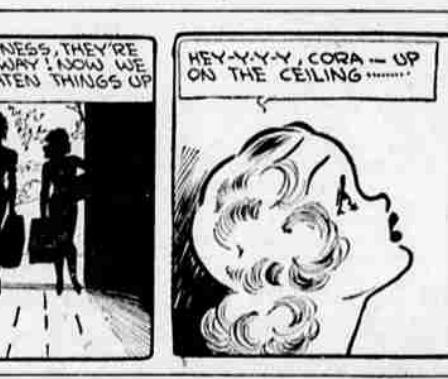
Wash Tubbs



Boots and Her Buddies



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