Murder in Plain Sight

by GERALD BROWN

W.N.U. FEATURES

SYNOPSIS

CHAPTER XXII: Veronica tells McCale that she has discovered the plot, and that she confronted Vallaincourt with the evidence.

While right outside his office, McCale is shot and wounded in the shoulder. When he regains consciousness, he is in his apartment, being nursed by Ann.

Chapter XXIII

He walked toward the Common, conscious that it had grown darker and wetter. There was a grim smile around his mouth

Of one thing he was sure. Curt Vallaincourt had really loved Veronica Bigelow. Start with that fact. He had burned his bridges, carefully and conscientiously. Including Shari Lynn? He thought so. Funny what love will do for a guy. But he must have been aware of his antagonists — of their viciousness if what he intended doing became known. He was certain that he knew of his danger.

McCale was silently deriding the philosophizing he had been indulging in when he came abreast of his own doorway. Just when it was, that the first warning came, he couldn't afterwards recall. He had just looked up to see the lights of his office gleaming faintly. He was only a few feet from the doorstep when it came—that intuitive message from his nerves. He started to turn; then thought better of it. Then he began to run.

The report came like a firecracker, hard by on his right. He heard the sound of running feet. He felt a ghastly blow near his heart. He reeled, stopped in his tracks A low whisper escaped his lips. He thought, "Oh, God, this is how Curt Vallaincourt died. I wonder what went through his mind—crawling up those endless stairs?"

He was conscious of wrenching himself upright against the door, of fumbling for the bell.

After a thousand years, the door swung open. Ann stood there. She seemed far away in the dark. He forced a smile.

"You're tight," she said.

"No." His own voice sounded different and from way back somewhere. "I don't drink. You know that. I've been held up."

"Yeah—all the way home, I'll bet. What have you done with Veronica Bigelow?"

"Don't tell me you're jealous of her." Hhe swayed, hardly aware of this insane stalling.

It must have been then that she saw pain glaze his eyes, bare his teeth. She moved forward, sudden terror striking her.

"Duke!" she gasped.

His legs gave way again. Slowly he slid to his knees.

He didn't hear Ann's scream.

Once during the night, he became conscious. He asked for water and a phantom floated into view. It was Ann. She held a glass of water for him. Her eyes, he noticed were big and filled with love for him and fear for him, too.

"That's Ann,' he thought. "I'm sick and she's worried about me. She loves me and she's worried. That's great. That's fine."

When the black curtain of Morphia lifted again, it was another day.

"Where am I?" he mouthed confused thoughts.

"Why, darling, this is Ann. You know where you are."

He started to put an arm about her. Pain seared his shoulder. He groaned a bit coming wide awake.

"Behave yourself," Ann said. "Good lord, did you see that?" She flung the morning paper on the floor. "The papers have you at death's door. Here, let me lift you up a little."

She propped a pillow behind him and sat down. There were deep shadows under her eyes.

"Have you been here all night?" he asked.

"Sure, why not?"

Just then the door opened and Rocky stuck his head in. He grinned broadly on seeing McCale awake and sitting up.

"Doc Preble is here, nurse." He dropped a curtsey to Ann.

"Preble!" McCale howled. "The coroner! What is this? I'm not dead —or am I"

Ann chuckled. She did not look too tired or harassed now that she smiled.

"When you fell in the doorway last night, you looked pretty dead to me. I fainted. Rocky had the two of us on his hands. Of course, he simply let me lie there. With the door wide open, I wasn't unconscious long. I came to and stumbled up the stairs to find he had stretched you out on the office desk. What with Rocky beating his own brains out and cursing that someone had bumped off the boss, I dialed headquarters. The homicide squad, down to the last legman were here in three minutes flat."

Preble looked McCale over shrewdly, examined the wound, and rebandaged it in short order.

"You'll do," he said. "Stay in bed for twenty-four hours. Don't want you running a temperature. You're a lucky guy. The bullet was deflected by the cigarette case you carry in your upper vest pocket."

"Was it a forty-five?"

"Undoubtedly, from the nature of the wound. If it hadn't been for that cigarette case, it would have ripped you wide open. Well, mind what I say now. The girl needs some sleep."

The telephone rang. Ann, provokingly placing the bedside telephone out of his reach, and with a smug expression on her face, went into the outer office to take the call.

"That was Veronica Bigelow," she said matter-of-factly. "I had the devil of a time before she'd trust me with the message. She's upset no end. It seems that Donlevy has arrested Christopher Storm."

"When?"

"Last night or early this morning. She's been trying to get the office ever since, I suppose?"

"You suppose?"

"Well, I—I stuffed blotting paper in the telephone bell last night. I thought the ringing might disturb your rest—the doctor said—"

"Get Donlevy on the wire," Duke said.

Obediently she called police headquarters, only to learn that the homicide man was on his way there at that very moment.

In less than twenty minutes, the lieutenant strode in in the wake of Rocky. The two of them so big, but so different,bulked hugely in the doorway. Donlevy, with a muttered greeting to McCale, flung himself into a chair. Crevices of fatigue and worry lined his face.

(To Be Continued)

4909
SIZES
34 - 52

Such a pleasure to sew Pattern 4909, knowing how slim you will be in that dart-fitted waist, how graceful in soft full skirt, easy flare sleeves. Make it for Sunday "best"!

Pattern 4909 comes in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52. Size 36 takes 3¼ yards 39-inch.

Send **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS** (25c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern to room 421, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto. **Print plainly SIZE, NAME, ADDRESS, STYLE NUMBER.**

OK! OK!—Whence The Abbreviation?

Constant use by old, as well as young, in recent years, has made O.K. one of the most widely used and familiar abbreviations of speech in our language today, comments the Huron Expositor.

In a book, "American Language," the author says: "The first known use of O.K. in this sense appears in the court records of Sumner County, Tennessee, October 6, 1790.

"On that date, Andrew Jackson, Esq., proved a bill of sale from Hugh McGary, to Gasper Mausker, for a negro man, which was O.K. James Parton in his biography of Jackson suggests that what appeared to be O.K. in the record may really be a poorly penned O.R., which was the abbreviation for Ordered Recorded. Apparently O.K. came into general use after Jackson was elected President."

But despite its hoary age, we still don't see any sense in it.

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"Just What I Needed."—The heat was rough on poor Tony, a bear cub at the Ross Park Zoo in Binghampton, New York, until he discovered ice cream. He has one firm paw on the keeper to be sure that the ice cream cone doesn't get away before he can get in all his licks. Mmm . . . love that cold stuff.

ANNE HIRST
Your Family Counselor

Marriage Needs More Than Love

DEAR ANNE HIRST: I've stopped going with the boy I love because my family talked me into it. They said we couldn't get along, because he quarrels with me so much. He does have a lot of temper, and gets mad at the least little thing. He doesn't fuss much at the time, but he never forgets a thing. Since he left, I make better grades at school. But I want him back!

This 18-year-old girl is so much in love that she cannot reason. She doesn't see that marrying a boy who constantly criticizes her and quarrels with her could only sentence her to a life where quarrels would increase and love be destroyed. Her family want to protect her from such a tragedy. They could not bear to see how unhpappy this boy made her, and they know she would be more unhappy as his wife, for he would hurt her so much more.

All she knows is that she's in love. And, like so many young girls, she thinks that is all that marriage needs.

● PASSION OR LOVE?

It is not to be expected that a young girl can distinguish between passion and love. She thrills to caresses, her awakened emotions declare this is what she was made for. There may be nothing in common between the two except this physical magnetism, but to her it seems love itself. She does not know (and would resent being told) that she would react to almost any other presentable young man in the same exciting way. To her he now appears as the only one with that magic glamor—and so she pictures their marriage as just one long life of the same ecstasy.

Marriage, such as this one would be, doesn't work out that way. The thrills grow less, the allure is dimmed. And the girl finds herself tied to a youngster with a bad temper who spends his time trying to make her over. He is fractious and selfish, impatient and dominating. He "never forgets a thing" she did that displeased him, and their life becomes a series of sordid scenes which shame them both. Then how she wishes she had listened to her family!

In no other association is the need for restraint and patience, compromise and forgiveness, so necessary as in marriage. It is not for those who do not understand these essentials. Only a deep and understanding love, which implies an overmastering desire for each other's happiness, can make it a good one.

Grow up before you think of marrying. Anne Hirst will help you be patient. Write her at Box A, room 421, 73 Adelaide Street West, Toronto.

532
by Laura Wheeler

Create your own heirlooms! This popular pinwheel design is fascinating to crochet. And its lacy loveliness endures for years.

What an elegant luncheon set these squares make! For larger articles, join them. Pattern 532 has directions; stitches; list of materials.

Send **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS** in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern to the Needlecraft Dept., room 421, 73 Adelaide Street West Toronto. Print plainly **PATTERN NUMBER**, your **NAME** and **ADDRESS.**

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. Should the hostess plan some entertainment for each day of a house party?

A. Yes; to make the house party a success, this should be done. However, some free time should be left for the guests to do as they please, usually the morning.

Q. When two women are driving, who enters the automobile first, the hostess or her guest?"

A. The guest

Q. Is it customary to tip the coat-room attendant of a dining room?

A. Yes; the usual amount is ten cents, more if desired.

Q. When autographing a photograph, should a girl add a few words of sentiment to the signature?

A. Not unless her fiance, or some very intimate friend, has asked her to do so. Just the name "Mary" is far better than to inscribe some sentiment, and then regret it in later years.

Q. Should a woman who is smoking observe the same courtesies as a man?

A. Yes; she should be careful not to drop ashes all over the rug or blow smoke into another's face.

Q. How are guests invited to a christening?

A. By telephone or an informal note.

Road Accidents

Motor car accidents in Ontario in the first quarter this year totalled 4,540, an increase of nearly 29 per cent. over the same period a year ago. The 101 deaths were one less.

C.N.E. BULLETIN

Rodeo Attracts Student Drivers

There's to be a high school "Rodeo" at the Canadian National Exhibition this year supervised by the Toronto City Police and the University of Toronto Safety Division. Open to all Canadians between 16 and 18 years of age who hold temporary or permanent drivers' licenses, this safe-driving competition is being sponsored by the C.N.E. in the interests of traffic accident prevention.

Of the licensed drivers in Ontario under 18 years of age, 738 were involved in traffic accidents in 1946. There were 15 deaths as a result of these 738 teen-age accidents, according to safety records.

Basic skill safe-driving tests are recognized as one of the most effective ways to prevent traffic fatalities. Proper driver-education when the student is learning to handle a car makes for safety among new drivers who are Canada's potential drivers for the next 50 years, it is pointed out.

A test - driving diamond will be set up just inside the Princes' Gate at the C.N.E. where, on Sept. 4, finalists will have to demonstrate their driving ability by taking the various safe-driving tests on the spot. Standard model cars will be supplied, it is explained.

Two sets of cash prizes will go to the best three boy drivers and the best three girls at the wheel. Entry forms must be returned to the C.N.E. not later than July 1.

Cover Burns

First-aid treatment of burns consists in covering the affected area and keeping it covered until competent medical attention is obtained. Burns are sterile when sustained, but they may become infected by careless handling immediately afterwards.

Do not attempt to alleviate pain by applying an ointment. Only sterilized dressings, such as a doctor will apply, should be used, and first-aiders are urged not to remove clothing or expose the burned surface meanwhile.

Why The Scarcity Of Stewardesses?

What happens to good little airline stewardesses? They get married. And too quickly, United Air Lines said in New York, as the line issued another appeal for girls to become stewardesses. The company said its girls stay only an average of eighteen months before they leave to get married. Girls must have a year of college and a year of business experience; or two years of college; or hold a registered nurse certificate. They must be between twenty-one and twenty-six; between 5 feet 2 inches and 5 feet 7 inches; weight a maximum of 135 lbs. "The poundage must be distributed proportionally," the line said, wondering why stewardesses get married so quickly.

Lime In Kettles

Lime deposits in any cooking utensil can be removed by boiling strong vinegar water in it, or water to which cream of tartar has been added—one teaspoon per quart of water.

When your BACK ACHES...

Backache is often caused by lazy kidney action. When kidneys get out of order excess acids and poisons remain in the system. Then backache, headache, rheumatic pain, disturbed rest or that 'tired out' feeling may soon follow. To help keep your kidneys working properly—use Dodd's Kidney Pills. Time-tested, popular, safe, non-habit-forming. Demand Dodd's Kidney Pills, in the blue box with the red band. Sold everywhere. 13

GIRLS WANTED

Several openings are available for girls to learn power sewing machine operation. Piece work earnings of operators, $20.00 to $25.00 weekly for five day week. No Saturday work. Excellent working conditions in bright, modern plant equipped with Cafeteria. Plant located on St. Lawrence River, 60 miles from Ottawa and 100 miles from Montreal.

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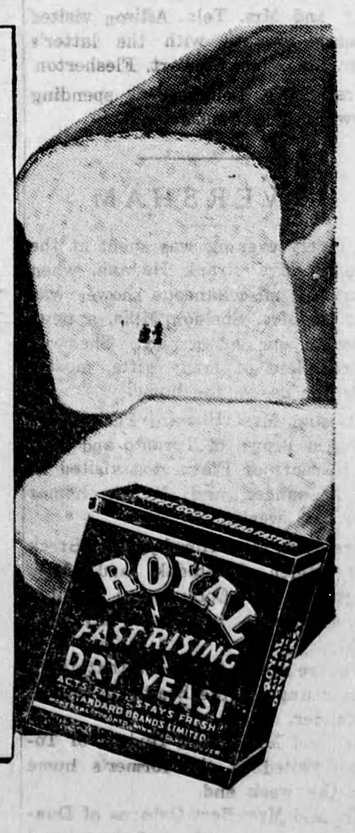
60 cts. Economy size, $1.50

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

SWEETER TASTIER **White Bread**

RECIPE

Put 1 c. lukewarm water in bread bowl, add 1 envelope Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast and 1 tsp. sugar, stir: let stand 10 min. Scald 2 c. milk, add 5 tbs. sugar: add 5 tsp. salt; cool to lukewarm. Add to yeast with 1 c. water; add 6 c. sifted flour: beat well. Add 5 tbs. melted shortening and 6 c. more sifted flour, or enough to make easily handled dough. Knead dough quickly and lightly until smooth and elastic. Place dough in greased bowl, cover; set in warm place free from draft. Let rise until doubled in bulk. Punch dough down in bowl: let rise again until about ¾ as high as first rise. When light, divide into 4 equal portions; shape into balls. Cover with cloth; let rest 10 to 15 min. Shape into loaves: place in greased bread pans. Cover: let rise until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour. Bake in 425° F. oven for 35 min., then reduce heat to 375° F. Finish baking about 30 min. longer.