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The Man Who Wasn't Himself

By Leslie Cargill

Author of: "The Surprising Sanctuary," "Was It Montelli?" etc., etc.

CHAPTER XXVI

Argument With a Murderer "It was an accident. I didn't mean must come along,

to kill him. stretch of road. The great load of it's murder this time." ed into the field entry, and the three went for me. At the warehouse, lamps combined to make a strange, Then he snatched up one of those bars

cinema-like picture. Murrey's expression, as he blurted struggle to get it away I hit him." out the truth, was a mixture of fear and terror. For once he was taken off yourself?" his guard, and there was no doubt that "Funny, but I want you to know. the method of Thomas's death had You prophesied it would come to this. been a dreadful memory.

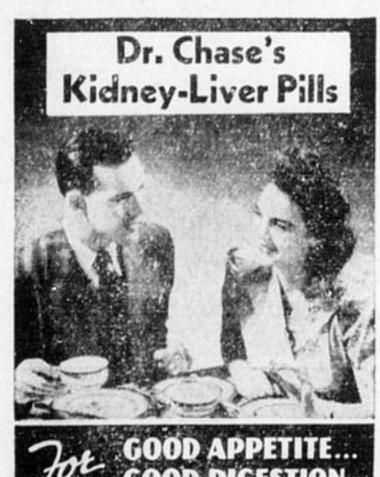
Cooper's pallor made him look green, asking you to string along, is there?" Despite the gravity of his position "Do you believe I should keep my Harkness had most command over his promise if I made it "

emotions.

thing he had not contemplated. van and clear off with Chuck," he said. detached and was stealing closer. "You've spoilt it." His voice rose. "Put that gun away and come on," "You're driving me-you're driving pleaded Cooper. again.

From the pocket of his overcoat he "Drop it, quick!" produced a stubby pistol.

ing a clutch at Murrey's arm.



the highway. Harkness wondered The hour was late, but surely someone

"A bullet wound can't be camou-Drama was set on that deserted flaged," he exclaimed. "They'll know this stuff. How much start have you led up to Fawley, who led us to the face of the direct peril. Capt.

black-market meat, Cooper.s car back- "Listen!" Murrey said. "Thomas figures oddly outlined in the criss- was. He was going to squeal, and I

I don't like it, that's flat. No sense in

he asked, and immediately regretted blood." Harkness had to keep talking. prompting Murrey into doing some- He had seen what the others, in their position, could not. From the shadow "I was going to leave you with the of Cooper's car a darker figure became

"Tom Fawley's brisker voice cut in.

A wrong movement from Murrey "Don't do it," Cooper implored, mak- and a heavy spanner crashed on his that looks like our quarry." wrist. The weapon fell from his grasp with the recovered automatic, but of a stern chase. backing away as he did so. Cooper joined him. They made for Cooper's ed. car, got in, and were off without any possibility of effective intervention.

"How in thunder did you manage to arrive at the crucial moment?" Hark- edge the other car on to the grass conspiracy was kept going?" nes, asked, ruefully watching the red verge and force it to a stop. Murtail light disappearing in the distance. rey, however, refused to be intimidat-

"Doing as I was told. Your pal ed and held on a straight course. For Cooper's runabout was outside his place so I snuggled into the dickle. And here I am in the nick of time, as ice driver to fall behind, upon which Tyrrell."

end of a pistol."

"No. I ought to be thankful, you saved my life."



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"Ten minutes or more." "Perhaps we can overtake them Murrey won't want to draw attention crossed beams of the masked head- told him it was asking for trouble. by speeding. Trouble is to know whether he's turned off. I'll risk the used for opening packing cases. In the main road. He left orders for a general warning | him.'

both of us."

they?"

Hullo, what's happening?'

wished himself out of it.

squad'?" the inspector growled.

"Huh! Tread on it, Johnson, Oi.

been up in the eighties in this. G-r-r!"

They had drawn level, purposing to

about a mile they raced side by side

Then came a steepish hill down which

swerved, seemed to be tossing like a

broadside across the road. From in

of glass and the rending of metal.

Chapter XXVII

The Inspector Sums Up

was probably right when he told you

the killing of Felix Thomas was ac

brought to trial? That's doubtful."

"You were going to charge him with

"According to the warrant in my

"Often it is the strongest. We'd

found the jemmy, complete with his

finger prints, some hair, and a smear

of blood attributed to Thomas. Fur-

hermore, there is the lorry which was

used to run him over after death.

Murrey drove that himself. He dare-

n't take anyone into his confidence

But the inquest put the wind up the

owner who guessed his was the one

we were searching for. Soon as in-

saving his skin. Building up a case

like that was slow, and laborious. It

was a strong one., sir, after the little

facts had been pieced together and

the laboratory and the technicians

"You didn't make bad use of me,

"Delighted to hear you admit it."

ing part in a follow-my-leader matter.'

"Beginning with Chetwood?" Rich-

"You've hit the bull's eye, sir. He

happened to be the weakest member.

had done their work."

task being completed."

forts altogether."

ard suggested.

quiries narrowed, he was intent

"On circumstancial evidence?"

a sight to be remembered.

murder?" asked Harkness.

like a flash of lightening."

their progress.

spector asked.

Providence.'

pocket."

"Does it matter trying to justify quoting the number of Cooper's car from memory. Fifty miles an hour in the black-out

"No. I've tried before." "Will my death be accidental, too?" | "It's hard to shoot a man in cold

"Think he'd have used it?" "Certain of it."

Enforcement Officer. When Chet-"That would have been over drastic. wood dropped out of sight we were I've got him taped. I think. Murder baffled.'

doesn't come natural to him. I vote "Was that the bomb incident?" wake and turn it in at the next town. per lay low, also wondering what had come unstuck. Apparently Chetwood Two cars bearing the blue indication then came back, but things didn't go lights of a police patrol halted, and on as smoothly as before."

half a dozen officers rushed the lorry. "From all points of view." Richard Accompanying them was a disgruntled agreed." I was staggered to find what Inspector Tyrrell, whose chagrin was a bad reputation I had as Chetwood. amplified when he heard what had Gc- Nobody was more relieved than I was "Nothing like I'd planned," he snap- | ter standing. Oh, I forgot-"

"Cooper's accusation. That is all courage, cheerfulness gallantry ped. "Come with me, Mr. Harkness.

"Does he deserve any sympathy?"

fastened on me.'

"The Trensham book-keeping was in brilliant as his scholastic career in was a thrilling experience. At sixty miles Richard clenched his teeth and ing on. Cooper had been stocking up a proof of his outstanding service, it Now and again the driver eased up with goods outside his quota, and buy- will be generally noted that he has to verify the identity of an overtaken ing and selling on the basis he had been awarded the Military Cross "for car, accelerating immediately the in- established. All highly involved. The gallantry and devotion to duty beyond spector vouched for it. On they swept, official auditors happened to catch all normal call." through villages and a small town him on the hop, and he tried to put The following is the citation in rewhere a constable tried to hinder you in the cart."

"Can't the man recognize the 'flying the firm of £5,000."

"With only a split second he'd have the figures again since he was killed wald Forest, the Lake Superior Regihis work cut out," Harkness retorted in Murrey's crash. Trensham's now ment (Motor) and the 21st Canadian "We negotiated that built up area have a plus showing. There was al- Armoured Regiment were engaged in ways that snag."

"What were the directors doing?" The clang of the police gong elicited card with smug triumph. "Tren- ground the evacuation of casualties "Shut up, or you'll be for it as well." as he gave a howl of pain. Richard an immediate response, but not by a sham," he announced, "was a business presented an extremely difficult pro-What had happened to all the traffic leaped forward, only to be incapacitat- slowing down. Cooper's runabout was name. Originally, there was a Jonas blem as neither the half-trucks or that had previously seemed to throng ed by a foul kick that left him gasp- a fast model. With the frenzied Jack Trensham, but he retired when the cars of 5 cwt of the Regimental Aid ing. Then Murrey was menacing them Murrey in control they were assured firm became a limited liability comp- Post could follow the axis of the ad-"Don't let him escape," Tyrrell urg- prised Jack Murrey, Cooper, two no- pressed home without nentities, and yourself."

> "Not likely, sir. He's nippy but I've! "Well, Perry Chetwood, I should tered was have said. Now do you see how the pockets of enemy. Although fully

Chetwood's affairs-"

"Keep out of mudholes, sir." "I'll see he does," Joyce remarked. Approaching traffic compelled the pel- |"I think you are awfully clever, Mr.

The inspector set his cup down care- H-Capt. Leng cheerfully accepted the Murrey took the crown of the road "Pity the blighter's got away, Tom." and tacked to such effect that the fully. "All a matter of routine, Mis-"You can't argue with the business previous advantage could not be re- Barlow." he purred. "Patience and perseverance."

> "Can't you ram his tail?" the in-"And Richard won't be bothered because he-because he-"

"Sorry, sir, we'd get the worst of "It is no concern of mine if Mr. it. If only this was a three-way Chetwood had a temporary understudy, Miss Barlow. No harm meant. But it remained comparatively nar- none done." row with a number of sharp bends.

"Thank you ever so much." "That's all right. I don't regard they tore frighteningly. There was the him as a criminal type."

screech of stidding tyres. The cari Richard laughed, relieved. "All I ask is to be invited to the ship in rough seas, and then stopped wedding," Tyrrell added slyly. "There's no hiding anything from

front sounded a crash, the splintering you detectives," Joyce said. "People try, of course. But I was There was one awful yell and then going to say, most men can't bear wecdings. I'm the opposite. I like them. Jack Murrey must have made a Comes of getting fed up with tragefrantic attempt to make the sudden dies. Well, don't get into any more

turn at the foot of the hill, but the tight corners." pace he was travelling had been too "We certainly won't," they answered. Tomorrow, Mr. McFarlane was to "We missed it ourselves by the skin perform a minor operation that would of our teeth." Inspector Tyrrell mut- remove the last trace of Chetwood's tered. "After this, I'll know what to borrowed features, though nature had answer if anyone asks if I believe in already done most in expediting a

reversion to type. "A fascinating experiment," the plastic specialist-had pronounced. "It To see Inspector Tyrrell sitting in only shows how important the bone Joyce Barlow's room drinking tea was structure is in determining physiognomy. There is the psychological and "As a rule," he was saying, "I hate other factors, too. In this instance I my cases to wind up in a coroner's in- built on false information. But the quest. This is an exception. Murrey human face will reflect the character of the individual."

"Thank heaven for that." Joyce cidental. Could he have proved it it had said.

(The End.)

Bar to Military Medal Won by C.S.M. E. Knott

Company Sergeant Major Ernest Knott, of Timmins, has won the Bar to the Military Medal which he previously won for gallantry in battle, according to a list appearing in despatches from Ottawa. The citation reads as follows:-

"On February 19, 1945, 'A' company of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry was holding their objective on the feature west of Calcar under extremely heavy enemy fire from mortars and an 88mm gun which was firing directly into the position.

"The six pounder gun had been knocked out and enemy tanks were seen approaching on the left flank. Company Sergeant Major Knott immediately appreciated the gravity of the situation. With complete disre-"Hope you didn't mind. It gave me gard for his personal safety, he took a turn when I discovered Murrey had a piat, and, despite the withering enemy fire, crawled to a position gone off with you in the lorry. I was looking for him in his car and caught from which he was able to engage a very small fish. However, we bag- the 88mm gun. He was successful in ged the entire gang, apart from my scoring three hits out of four thereby silencing the enemy gun. This loss "After that, my own venture into of fire power depleted the force of private detection appears very ama- the enemy attack to such an extent that the company succeeded in repel-"If I may say so, it was. Not that ling it and in holding the vitally im-

Res. 1429 | you and Mr. Fawley wasted your ef- portant position. "Company Sergeant Major Knott by his initiative and outstanding bravery set an inspiring example for "Not quite in the way you were trying." The inspector grinned. "But it the entire ocmpany and helped to aswas providential he poked into that sure the suuccess of the company dickey. Otherwise you two were tak- operation."

> Carlyle:-Make yourself an honest man and then there will be one rascal less in the world.

Next to Thomas perhaps. To cut it Try the Advance Want Advertisements

Schumacher Padre Awarded Military Cross for Valour

Citation in Case of Capt. John Robert Leng.

The people of Schumacher and district will take special pride not only in the fact that one of their own lads to recover an identity that was in bet- has won the Military Cross, but still them. The area between them more because of the outstanding undergoing very heavy shelling at the I'll leave a couple of men to look after washed out. I was going to say that devotion to duty which he showed in Cooper, and after going round in Leng is a Schumacher lad who passed sition, administered first aid, then circles we got the hang of it. 'Poor through the Schumacher schools with lifting the man on his shoulders carcredit to himself and then distinguish- ried him back over the bullet-swept ed himse'f in his university course, ground to safety. H-Capt. Leng has "Cooper paid with his life, s'r. That Being ordained to the ministry of the consistently shown himself to be couris a high price. To be sure he was a United Church, he was placed in ageous and devoted to his duty above bad egg. But Murrey was pushing charge of the Larder Lake United and beyond all normal call. His gal-Church. He enlisted for active service lant actions in this particular battle "Not over the defalcations that were and has been serving with the 21st undoubtedly saved the lives of many Canadian Armoured Regiment. His men, and had an incalculable effect "Wheels within wheels." Tyrrell said. career as a padre overseas has been as on the morale of the whole regiment." a dreadful state owing to what was go- Schumacher and at the university. As Medals Awarded at Music

gard to the awarding of the Military "You mean he hadn't really robbed Cross to Capt. John Robert Leng:-"On the night of February 26, 1944,

"He had not. They've gone through during the advance towards the Hochan attack to secure a high ridge overlooking the town of Udem. Owing to Inspector Tyrrell played a trump the extremely muddy condition of the any. The board more recently com- vance. Also the attack had been infested aware of the difficulties and dangers "If I'd delved a little deeper into involved, H-Capt. Leng organized and led a small party of stretcher-bearers to follow up the attack, to search out and evacuate casualties. Although continuously under sniper and heavy mortar fire they carried on their work.

to attend to casualties in the face of The festival brought out a large aralmost certain death. His calmness and cheerfulness so inspired those that were with him that they became imbued with his courage and spirit and carried on their work tirelessly throughout the night. When morning dawned they came under observed fire and their task became even more haz- The man chiefly responsible for the ardous. At 7.30 a.m., the party observed a wounded man in a slit trench some three hundred yards ahead of time. Once again the Padre demonstrated his absolutely selfless devotion to duty when he raced out to the po-

Festival at Kirkland Lake

Some days ago Kirkland Lake held its first musical festival. The event proved a very decided success. Eighteen medalists were named by the adjuudicator, Mr. C. R. Fenwick. Gold medals were awarded to winners of first prizes in the solo events, and silver medals to those taking second

most difficult tasks for himself, and on place. There were also certificates innumerable occasions dashed forward for winners in other departments. ray of very promising talent. Whenever there is any event like this it may be taken for granted that there is one man or woman with special talent who arranges most of the details and carries the occasion through. establishment of the Public School Musical Festival at Kirkland Lake is James Wiggins, A. T. C. M., L. H. C. was M., director of music for the public

> Exchange: - If you think you have troubles, wear tight shoes,

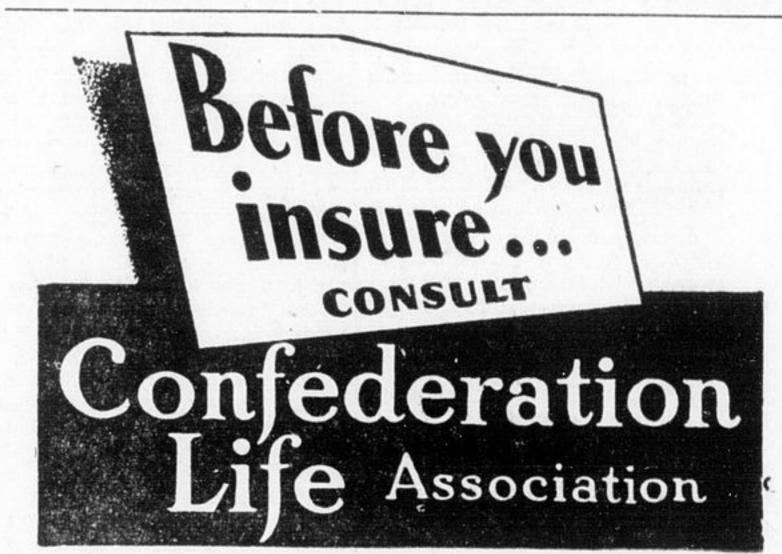
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