

PREBLE NEWS

Mrs. John Kirchner and daughter Lorine and Erma visited in Fort Wayne Saturday evening with Mrs. Louis Stetter and daughter Paula, and Mr. and Mrs. Huston Carver.

Mrs. Richard Bogner and son Samuel of Decatur visited with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Zimmerman and

family Thursday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Geo Bultemeier called on Mrs. Crist Bultemeier Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Henry of Laketon were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Buryanek, Wednesday.

Peggy Sullivan left for Alameda, Calif. for an indefinite stay with her aunt and uncle.

Mrs. Mary Werling and grand-

daughter spent Thursday evening with Mrs. John Kirchner and daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Straub of Spencerville, Ohio, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Hoffman and family, Sunday.

Miss Iverna Werling of Indianapolis spent several days visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Werling.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rute and family of Waynesdale visited with Mrs. Mary Werling, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Henry of Lake-

ton called on Mrs. John Kirchner and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Elzey, Wednesday.

Lorine and Erma Kirchner spent Wednesday evening with Mrs. Frank Fugate and daughter Blanche.

Volcano Roars at Wedding

Rabaul, New Guinea —(UP)—A volcano provided a strange setting for the wedding here of J. Trevit, missionary, and Miss Chaseling. While they were singing the register, explosions occurred and a dense black cloud descended on the town.

but the guests were not deterred and threw confetti and took photographs.

Old Soda Fountain Odd

Watertown, Wis. —(UP)—A solution of tartaric acid in simple syrup flavored with lemon and a bottle of whisky were the palate-tickling properties of the first soda fountain in Wisconsin. Dr. Edward Johnson, who founded the store in 1844—four years before Wisconsin became a state—installed the soda fountain in 1845.

Public Auction

7 — ROOM HOME — 7

On the premises, 611 Winchester street, Decatur, Ind.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27th

at 4:30 P. M.

7 Room House, all modern except furnace. Lot 66x132 ft. Good Garage.

This is a good property, a nice home.

TERMS—1-3 cash, 1-3 in 6 months, 1-3 in one year.

ELIZABETH FAIRCHILD HEIRS, Owners

Roy S. Johnson—Auctioneer.

PUBLIC SALE

COMPLETE CLOSE-OUT SALE OF TWO GOOD FARMS

80-ACRE FARM 40-ACRE FARM

All Personal Property, Feed, Livestock, Farm Machinery, Etc. Due to ill health, I, the undersigned, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, without reserve, my 2 farms and all personal property located 1/2 mile south and 1/2 mile east of Craigville, Ind., or 2 miles north and 4 1/2 miles east of Bluffton, Ind., or 7 miles west of Decatur, Ind., on Road 224 then 4 miles south and 1/2 mile west, known as the old Dr. Davenport farm, on

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1937

Sale Commencing at 10:00 o'clock prompt

80-Acre Farm—80

Real Estate Will Sell at 1:00 P. M.

This is a beautiful farm home. One of the best producing farms in Wells County. All under cultivation except 6 acres of woods pasture, almost all level black land, good fence, very well ditched, and nicely located. Close to market, church and school.

HOUSE—11-room, all modern farm home, stucco, toilet and bath, furnace, hard and soft water piped in house; large basement, 20x32; large porch; electric lights. This home is in extra good condition.

BARN—Good 40x66 hip roof barn, in good condition.

GRANARY—16x16 granary with cement roof.

WAGON SHED—15x24, with cement roof.

TOOL SHED AND GARAGE—13x36 with tin roof.

POULTRY HOUSE—14x40, good condition.

HOG HOUSE AND CORN CRIB—36x30.

BROODER HOUSE—8x8.

MILK HOUSE—8x8, tile block, with cement roof.

WASH HOUSE AND UP-CELLAR—24x14.

WORK SHOP AND WOODHOUSE—14x26; electric lights to all outbuildings and barn; nice orchard and fruit trees; nice lawn and lot of shade trees; 2 good cisterns; 4-inch drilled well.

This is a wonderful 80-acre farm, and if you are in the market for a farm don't miss seeing it. We invite you to come, look it over any time before the sale.

40-Acre Farm—40

LOCATION—1/2 mile east of the 80-acre farm in Adams county.

Forty acres of good black land, good producing soil, and all under cultivation. Well ditched.

TERMS ON REAL ESTATE—One-fourth cash on day of sale. Terms on balance. For further information, see Ellenberger Bros., or Mr. Gerber at Farmers & Merchants Bank, Bluffton, Ind.

Personal Property

10:00 A. M. PROMPT

13 HEAD OF CATTLE—One Holstein cow, 4 years old, due to freshen Nov. 14; 1 part Jersey cow, 3 years old, due to freshen Dec. 1; 1 Holstein cow, 7 years old, due to freshen Dec. 20; 1 red heifer, 2 years old, due to freshen Feb. 13; 1 Holstein cow, 4 years old, due to freshen Feb. 10; 1 Holstein heifer, 2 years old, due to freshen March 10; 1 Holstein cow, 13 years old, due to freshen Mar. 23; 1 Guernsey cow, 13 years old, pasture bred; 3 heifers, 1 year old, pasture bred; 2 spring calves; 1 steer and 1 bull.

4 HEAD OF HORSES—One grey horse, 10 years old, weight about 1500 lbs.; good worker; 1 roan mare, 9 years old, weight about 1500 lbs.; good worker; 1 dark bay mare, 12 years old, with mare colt by side, 2 months old—this mare is in foal again.

59 HEAD OF HOGS—Eighteen head of shoats, weighing from 125 to 140 lbs.; 3 sows with 8 pigs by side each; 1 sow with 16 pigs by side; 1 sow with 4 pigs by side; 1 pure bred Duroc male hog, 18 months old.

HAY AND GRAIN—Ten tons good clover hay; 15 tons good timothy hay; 6 tons alfalfa hay; 2 tons bean hay; 5 tons oats straw; 50 bu. early oats; 150 bu. late oats; 20 bu. good wheat; 11 acres soy beans in field; 18 acres corn in field.

200 HEAD POULTRY—One hundred and forty head Big English pullets; 60 head Big English hens. All very good hens.

FARM MACHINERY—One farm wagon, with hay rack and grain bed combined; 1 McCormick mower; 1 double disk; 1 wooden frame, 2-section spike-tooth harrow; 1 spring-tooth harrow; 1 John Deere corn planter; one 14-inch Case riding plow; 1 New Idea manure spreader; 1 Osborne binder; 1 Dain hay loader; 1 low wheel wagon with dump boards; one 9-disk Columbia grain drill; 1 hay rake; 1 International corn cultivator; one 1-horse corn cutter; 1 double shovel plow; 1 single shovel plow; 1 buggy; 1 land roller; two 14-inch walking plows; 1 cider press; iron kettle; copper kettle; oil drum; 8-inch feed grinder; corn sheller; wheelbarrow; 1,000-lb. platform scales; grindstone, bench vice; saw; grain sacks; sledge; pump; jack; six milk cans; 1 DeLaval cream separator, No. 12; 1 new grapple hay fork; hay rope; double harpoon; 4 hay slings; 30-inch buzz saw; 1 good 2-wheel trailer with stock rack; 1 1/2 sets harness.

BROODER HOUSE—10x12, on skids, good condition; 6x9 sun porch.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS—One large cupboard; book case; large day-bed; 2 dressers; 1 rocker; 2 library tables; 4 beds; 1 mattress; good 11 ft. 4 in. by 12 ft. Axminster rug; small rugs; 1 Queen incubator; 400-egg, good; 1 Cyphers incubator, 150-egg; 1 O. V. B. 350-egg incubator; 1 Simplex oil brooder stove used 2 seasons; 4 large chicken feeders; jars; about 50 gal. elder vinegar; many other articles not mentioned.

TERMS—CASH—Anyone wanting credit should make arrangements at the Farmers & Merchants Bank before day of sale. Sold by Ellenberger Bros., Auctioneers, Bluffton, Indiana, and Herman Strahm.

JOEL A. SCHWARTZ, Owner

Farmers & Merchants Bank—Clerk.

Lunch Served on Grounds by Craigville U. B. Ladies' Aid.

"THE SILVER ROD MYSTERY"

by Lewis Allen Browne

CHAPTER XXI

"Just a moment, Sergeant, please," I called out when I heard him tell the officer over the telephone to bring Griswold in.

"Wait a minute, George," he spoke in the transmitter, and then turned to me with a puzzled expression. "What's the idea?"

"Does bringing him in mean an official arrest?"

"Suppose he will come in willingly, without an arrest, then use your judgment after your talk with him, arrest him or keep him under close surveillance, as you think best."

"Got some reasons, I suppose?"

"Several."

"O.K." He spoke in the telephone again. "Don't flash the paper, George, or the shield, if he will come in willingly. Get the idea? Don't let him think it's a pinch, we just want some information, tell him."

"Thanks," I said.

"What's the big idea?"

"I knew he was coming back."

"Why didn't you tip me?"

"I came to tell you, I didn't know until a couple hours ago."

I told him about Mary's letter, and the one she sent, and my hunch that she knew where Griswold was. Then I told him what she had asked about not making a real arrest of Griswold unless absolutely necessary.

"Sure, why shouldn't she ask that?"

"But he came back, didn't he? Came back of his own volition. We didn't know where he was. He could have kept right on, made a complete get-away."

"We'd have landed him, sometime. We always do."

"With exceptions."

"Well, yes, once in a while."

I looked at the clock.

"They can't cover those ninety miles in less than two and a half hours, too much traffic," I said. Suppose I meet him and take him to dinner, at the hotel, here. Foxcroft will be through at court. Then we can have a session at Foxcroft's office—if you care to let me in on it."

"Suits me, Mr. Stevenson. But don't get sore—you'll probably be tailed along, while at dinner."

"Why should I be sore? If Griswold did it, I want to know it. You know the Foxcroft situation?"

"I guessed it. He fell hard for the Montiehl girl."

"Other young men have, she is intelligent, pretty, and now wealthy. Here's my point. This Howard Griswold is nothing to me. Foxcroft is my friend. But neither you nor I, nor any decent man, wants to pin this on an innocent party. He's in a tight place, if that girl who wrote me didn't lie, and did really see him coming out of the front door."

"I'll say he's in a tight place."

"But you've read, somewhere, that a man should have the benefit of the doubt?"

"He'll get it."

"Very well, and thanks, Sergeant. I'll be back in two hours, plenty of time to meet him. I suppose your officer over in Kingsbury has a warrant?"

"He sure has."

"Then you can formally serve it any moment you feel that Howard Griswold ought to be locked up. But I'll tell you this—it's very poor circumstance indeed."

"How come, Mr. Stevenson? With Montiehl out of the way, the girl he is going to marry gets millions, with Montiehl living, she doesn't get a red cent. And he was there and in the house."

"So were others in the house, Brauman at the library porch, Morin on the porch, Professor Lardau in the library, and who knows how many more? Furthermore, it can be proven that Griswold was never in the house before. How the devil would he know that the silver rod was a trick knife with a hidden spring?"

"You answered that once, Mr. Stevenson, you said he was an art sharp and might have seen others like."

"Well, I'm just saying, that if a formal charge of murder is made, it's going to be a tough battle."

"All I want, so help me, is the guilty party."

"I know that, Sergeant."

I drove home with all speed, and on up to see Mary. I told her what had happened and how I believed that I had made it possible for Griswold to be brought in and questioned without a formal arrest at first.

She was extremely grateful.

"I don't guarantee that I can do any more. It depends on what he has to say, Mary."

"I know pretty well—it will be convincing, I am sure."

I told her of Mr. Colton and a detective having sailed in an effort to bring Professor Henri Lardau back, along with the stolen painting.

"I wish they were over there now. I am positive that it was that man. Can't you see? Uncle Gerry caught him stealing the painting. Uncle Gerry had refused to sell it a few days before. This man was desperate to get it—so desperate that he killed Uncle Gerry."

"It's good logic. That reminds me, I want some absolutely straight information. That silver rod knife was on the library wall since you can remember, you say?"

"Yes."

"As a child, weren't you curious? Didn't you ever take it from the wall?"

"I think perhaps I might have, but I am not sure, I wouldn't remember."

"Didn't you discover that it was really a knife with a ratchet spring and secret blade?"

"I never knew or suspected that it was a knife, or anything other than a silver rod, until you showed me that it was a knife."

"I'm convinced. Thanks."

I stopped off at the Forrest's to tell Sally why I wouldn't be home to dinner.

"All right, Harley," she said, "but if ever you turn professional detective I'll divorce you. I'm nothing but a poor lone detective's widow now."

"How about dropping everything, then?" I grinned at her, because I knew what the answer would be.

"No, for Heaven's sake, no, Harley. I'll never rest now until I learn the solution of all this."

"There you are!"

I had half an hour to wait in Greatport, and fifteen minutes of that I spent arguing Wally Foxcroft out of his determination to formally arrest Griswold and slap him in jail. The last bit of argument I had was what won him over.

"You'll make a woe of a hit with Mary if you have that done," I said, and explained what she had begged of me.

"Oh well, it doesn't matter—we'll have him all snarled up before we're through with him, and then he'll be inside, looking out through the bars."

"Possibly, Wally, and then if they bring Professor Lardau back with a confession of the crime, that will make you a what?"

He walked up and down his office a few times.

"Of all the damnable cases!" he cried.

I went out and met Howard Griswold. He was certainly a fine looking man, of thirty, or perhaps a year or so more, tall, handsome, intelligent appearing.

I had given Sergeant Harper and Foxcroft my word that I would say nothing, if nothing, in no wise tell Griswold anything that might help him in his defence.

The talk at dinner was not very lively, mostly a few rather inane generalities. Griswold did not seem at all worried, although he was far from garrulous.

After dinner we went over to Foxcroft's office. Griswold was, like myself, a pipe smoker. I saw. We sat around and waited for Sergeant Harper. Foxcroft was having a difficult time of it to be half civil to Griswold. Then Harper came.

He looked at me, questioning.

"Go ahead, Sergeant," I said.

Foxcroft had a pad handy, ready to jot down whatever point came up. I had half a hunch that he wouldn't jot down as many favorable points as he did the damning ones.

"Well, Mr. Griswold, it looked bad when you disappeared, I suppose you know that," was the way Harper started it off.

"To me it looked very good."

"How come?"

Foxcroft scowled at Griswold.

"It was a telephone call from Cleveland and I had to get away at once in time to see Dean Anderson—he was on for just a couple days, he's dean of Heighon University."

"In Illinois?" Foxcroft asked.

"Yes, I believe there is no other."

"What about it?" Harper asked.

"It means that I resign from the small college in Kingsbury and go out there at double the salary, three times the class, and every advantage. I had been hoping to get it."

He took some papers from his pocket and showed us an agreement. He was to go out in September. It gave the salary, every detail, and showed that there had been previous correspondence concerning it.

Foxcroft took the agreement and read it with great care. I saw him making notes from it.

"This could have been done by mail, couldn't it?" he asked.

"Not exactly. Dean Anderson was on to Cleveland and it was considered of him to save me a longer journey. He wanted to see me in person and talk with me. He arrived at the pleasing decision then."

Foxcroft grunted. I gave him a warning frown.

"It looked bad, shipping out like that, of course you know that," Harper repeated.

"This position meant a great deal to me. To stop, make explanations, and the like, would have spoiled my chance to see Dean Anderson. I knew that I would be back within a day or two. I saw no harm in it, see none now. In fact, I would have been rather stupid if I had failed to take advantage of the opportunity."

"Well, you went," Foxcroft said, accusingly.

Again I scowled at Foxcroft.

"And I came back," Griswold smiled at him as he said it.

"To begin with, it is true that Mr. Montiehl ordered you off his premises, for all times," Harper asked.

"He ordered me not to come and see Miss Montiehl."

"But you did?"

"Naturally I did. She asked me to come. I am in love with her. I believe there is a saying that all is fair in love and war."

"This is murder—"

"Just a minute, Wally," I cried. Harper looked over and shook his head at him. Griswold made no sign that the remark annoyed him.

"You met Miss Montiehl on the grounds on the afternoon of the murder?"

"Yes."

"Then what?"

"She went back to a garden party."

"And you went up and into the Montiehl house, didn't you?"

"Yes."

Foxcroft grunted at this.

"Why?"

"Well, it is rather embarrassing for Montiehl to get a dagger in his heart!" Foxcroft cried.

(To be continued)

Copyright by Lewis Allen Browne

Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Classified, Business Cards, Notices

One Time—Minimum charge of 25c for 20 words or less. Over 20 words, 1 1/2c per word. Two Times—Minimum charge of 40c for 20 words or less. Over 20 words 2c per word for the two times. Three Times—Minimum charge of 50c for 20 words or less. Over 20 words 2 1/2c per word for the three times. Cards of Thanks 35c. Obituaries and verses..... \$1.00

FOR SALE

FOR SALE — Nearly new bicycle. Phone 1019. 332-k31x

FOR SALE — 100 stoves, ranges, cabinets, heaters, and furnaces. 18 months to pay. For particulars write owner, P. O. Box 226, Decatur, Indiana. 226-31

FOR SALE—Kitchen cabinets and breakfast sets. Kitchen cabinets, \$16.50 up; breakfast sets, \$15 up. We carry a complete line of Hoosier kitchen furniture. Sprague Furniture Co., 162 So. 2nd St. Phone 199. 226-31

FOR SALE—Cedar Chests. 60 beautiful modern cedar chests. These chests would make lovely Christmas gifts. Will sell on the lay-away plan. You can see these chests before you buy. Save \$5 to \$10 on these chests. For particulars write owner, P. O. Box 56, Berne, Indiana. 226-31

FOR SALE—Seed wheat. Pure Rudy — grown from certified seed. Official germination test 98 %—weight test 57-lb. Yield this year, 29 bushels per acre. \$1.50 per bushel at farm—located 5 mile north, one mile west of Tocsin, Ossian phone, Frank P. Hoopengardner, Ossian, Indiana, route one. 226-31x

FOR SALE — Kalamazoo stoves, ranges, heaters and furnaces. 5 years written guarantee. Factory prices, 18 months to pay. Sprague Furniture Co., 152 So. Second St. Phone 199. 226-31

FOR SALE—Table top Tappan gas range, with regulator, all porcelain. Quick sale. Stults Home Appliance Store. 226-21

FOR SALE—McCormick corn husker, good shape. Lee Bell, Willshire, Ohio. 226-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x

FOR SALE—90 acres, good, level soil, well drained and fenced, on stone road, close to church, school and town. Excellent 8 room house, basement, furnace; large barn and other out buildings, in good repair and paint. Priced to sell. Jesse Engle, Berne, Ind. 227-31x