

MURDER UPSTAIRS

ADAM BLISS

CHAPTER 45

"WHY SHOULD the murderer search Della's room?" I asked Larrabee. "Wouldn't he leave as soon as his work was done? There was nothing to take. Grace said that the last time she saw the gloves they were in the pocket of Della's uniform. That was about 2 or 3 o'clock yesterday. It seems to me that when Della undressed they would remain there."

Larrabee smiled.

"Unless, Mrs. Penny, Della removed the gloves and put them under her pillow, or something like that. On the bed, in her hands, if Hemingway was the light of Della's life, as Grace says, isn't it probable that because they were his gloves, she would keep them near her? I think it is reasonable to conclude that Della Randall took the gloves from the pocket of her dress when she undressed, carried the gloves to bed with her, perhaps forgot them when she heard a knock at the door, and then when she got up, the gloves fell to the floor and remained there until we found Della, later. The gloves were on the floor near the head of the bed, a queer place for them to be."

"It sounds logical."

"I like your mind, Mrs. Penny. It responds quickly. Thanks for the information about the gloves. Grace said nothing to me last night about them when I talked with her, and nothing about Martin Hemingway. Now, then, is that all you talked about to Grace in the trunk room? My man said you were in there for three-quarters of an hour."

"That's all, Lieutenant Larrabee. I had, finally."

"And what took you so long with Janet Bell? Was she telling you the story of the dagger?"

"Yes."

"Strange that that, too, should take three-quarters of an hour."

Larrabee interrupted us with a report on Mrs. Rippe.

"The writer of this letter is dead, sir. Died two years ago, in Europe. Her husband is still abroad. Nothing developed from this lead."

Larrabee thanked him shortly and turned to me.

"Are you sure that was all Janet told you, Mrs. Penny?"

"Quite sure, and she didn't kill either Andrew Darlen or Della! I couldn't help flaring up on that. He was looking at me so queerly."

"You're very trusting, Mrs. Penny. That's the only thing that's wrong with your logic. You let your heart sway you. Very bad in this business."

"But I'm not in your business, Kirk Larrabee!"

"True, you're not, but you've got a wonderful knack of making people like you. You've got a God-given faculty for getting information out of people because they like and trust you. You're wasting your time keeping a boarding house, Mrs. Penny. I didn't know whether to feel hat-

tered or not. He might be making fun of me.

"I know these people, that's why they tell me things—" I said, slowly.

"No, it isn't that. I think you could get the confidence of a hard-boiled longshoreman if you really set out to do it. What else did Janet tell you, Mrs. Penny?"

"Flattering me so I'd tell him! I wasn't going to, of course, but I was utterly unprepared when he tossed a telegram on my lap. I read it care-fully, every word of it. It was addressed to him."

IS JANET BELL MENTIONED IN DARLEN MURDER HOUSE SAME JANET BELL WHOSE BROTHER JERALL BELLE ESCAPED FROM COUNTY JAIL SEATTLE IN NOVEMBER STOP GIRL IS 21 YEARS OLD BLONDE DARK BROWN EYES SMALL ALMOST INVISIBLE SCAR ABOVE LEFT EYEBROW STOP WEIGHT 100 POUNDS HEIGHT FIVE FEET ONE INCH STOP ANSWER IMMEDIATELY STOP WATCH HER IF SAME GIRL FOR CLUE TO BROTHER'S WHEREABOUTS STOP WANT HIM BADLY STOP SEND NEWS FROM CHIEF OF POLICE SEATTLE

"I got that last night, Mrs. Penny, and I've already answered it. Janet Bell is certainly the girl they want, and I told them that."

"I also informed them that the letters she has been getting at your house have all been postmarked from New York. No name on the envelopes, however. But Miss Cambridge was able to give me the information I wanted. She's a mine of knowledge about everybody in the house, and she isn't bothered with your scruples with her pen."

I handed back the telegram, and got up, but Larrabee waved me back to my chair. I had to sit down again, worried all through, wondering what was coming next. Poor Janet. The blow had fallen.

Larrabee tapped the yellow telegram with his pen.

"I'm not hunting back robbers, Mrs. Penny. I'm hunting the murderer of two people at the present time, and I'm going to find him. If I thought Janet Bell knew anything about the murders of Darlen and Della, I'd arrest her this minute. I can see how she might have murdered Darlen, but I can't figure out a reason or opportunity for her to kill Della."

"You won't tell me what she told you about herself, but perhaps I can make a pretty good guess from what she was forced to admit to me."

"Of course the letter she found pushed under her door mentioned her brother. She went to Darlen about it. He was a blackmailer. We've established that definitely. How he found out who Janet Bell

was I can't imagine, but I think she must have discovered it some way. Perhaps he thought she had some of the stolen money, or could get it, and demanded a share of it to keep silent. Perhaps he wanted something else. That's very possible.

"The whole crux of my case against Janet lies on the time she found the note under her door. If she found it right after dinner, she would have had the opportunity to take the carving knife from the dining room buffet, wait until Darlen went to his room, go in and kill him. The note was put under her door immediately after dinner. Darlen went upstairs alone, but came right down again. Hemingway was with him when he went up again at 11, and Darlen went right into his own room."

"Therefore, he didn't put the note under the door then. He must have done it when he went up the first time. Hemingway thinks that Darlen never left his room from 11 to 11:30. And so Janet goes up the stairs after dinner, after Darlen's trip, mind you, finds the note, reads it, burns it, comes downstairs, goes into the dining room, steals the knife, makes another trip upstairs—for she did go upstairs twice before she finally retired—hides the knife. Later she goes to Darlen's room, carrying the knife. It all fits—"

"It can't fit," I protested. "Why should she steal a knife when she already had one—her dagger?"

"Beautiful, Mrs. Penny. I didn't know whether you'd see the flaw in my case or not. Janet had a knife. It's rather small, and perhaps Janet didn't think it would do the work. After all it isn't a large knife, and it is dull. It might not kill at one blow. She was sure of the carving knife. It would do an assassin's job. See?"

"Why would she kill Della, too?"

"That's what I don't know, Mrs. Penny. That's where the very high brick wall is standing in my mind. I can't climb over it. Janet doesn't seem to me as a girl with homicidal tendencies. She seems normal—I can understand her distress now that I know about her brother and his escape from jail before his trial. She naturally would be greatly alarmed. I can explain that, and I can build up a pretty fair reason why she would want Andrew Darlen to move the way he did. But I can't explain the ruthless killing of Della by ascribing it to Janet. She only knew her as a maid in the house."

"There are two things that might account for it—one, that Janet is a killer, which her entire attitude and makeup belie, and the other is that Della might have learned from Darlen about Janet's brother. Far fetched, of course, because I think if Della had known, she would have told me. She was inclined to hysteria, but she was honest as the day is long, even if she did take Hemingway's gloves secretly from his pocket."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

since June 30, 1934, the gross deficit of the government shows a steady decrease during the fiscal years 1935 and 1936. x x x

"Therefore, it follows that by whatever amount the appropriation for work relief at this session is less than \$2,136,000,000, the gross deficit for 1937 will be less than the deficit for 1936 by the same amount."

Burden Upon Business

In withholding final relief figures, Mr. Roosevelt noted that ultimate success in balancing income and outlays "will depend, of course, on the strength of efforts put forward by the employers of the United States greatly to increase the number of persons employed by them."

While the absence of requests for new taxes was stressed, the President included two reservations:

1. He repeated that if processing taxes are invalidated by the Supreme Court, "we will have to face the problem of financing existing contracts for benefit payments out of some form of new taxes."

2. If Congress votes expenditures outside of budget estimates, "I strongly urge that additional taxes be provided to cover such charges."

"It is important as we emerge from the depression that no new activities be added to the government unless provisions is made for additional revenue to meet their cost."

Asked whether this position applied to the cash bonus issue, the Presi-

dent told newsmen it was just a general statement apropos of government solvency.

"We can look forward today to a continued reduction of deficits, to increased tax receipts and to declining expenditures for the needy unemployed," the message said, in emphasizing repeatedly that an estimated jump of \$716,655,000 in 1937 tax receipts over 1936 was "due largely to increased collections anticipated under the old (tax) schedules" rather than the new taxes.

Improvement Expected

Especially evidencing expected business improvement was a forecast that 1937 income tax collections would increase half a billion over 1936's estimated \$1,434,000,000.

The New Deal policy adopted in 1933 "to stop the downward economic spiral," the President said, was "predicated on two inter-dependent beliefs."

"First, the measures would immediately cause a great increase in the annual expenditures of the government—many of these expenditures, however, in the form of loans which would ultimately return to the Treasury."

"Second, as a result of the simultaneous attack on the many fronts I have indicated, the receipts of the government would rise definitely and sharply during the following few years, while greatly increased expenditure for the purposes stated, coup-

led with rising values and the stopping of losses would, over a period of years, diminish the need for work relief and thereby reduce federal expenditures. The increase in revenues would ultimately meet and pass the declining cost of relief."

Finances in Best Condition

"There is today no doubt of the fundamental soundness of the policy of 1933. If we proceed along the path we have followed and with the results attained up to the present time we shall continue our successful progress during the coming years."

"The finances of the government are in better condition than at any time in the past seven years. x x x the budget reflects a substantial decrease in the spread between income and outgo."

Mr. Roosevelt estimated gross receipts for the new fiscal year at \$5,564,217,450 as compared with \$4,410,793,946 for the current period.

Aside from a general revenue rise based on business improvement, the 1937 total included \$57,000,000 of social security, rail pension and Guffey coal law taxes.

Gross outlays for 1937—including the \$1,103,000,000 carryover for relief, but not additional demands to be estimated later—were put at \$6,752,966,370. This compared with \$7,645,301,338 for 1936.

Where Increases Go

The public debt estimate for next June 30 was \$30,933,375,017. Last

January it was forecast at \$34,680,000,000.

Major increases in estimate 1937 expenditures included \$610,000,000 for social security, rail pension, Guffey coal and other new law, a \$102,000,000 boost to put national defense funds at a record of \$228,000,000 more money to make \$405,000,000 available for major public works.

Some Decreases

Among decreases was elimination of the annual \$125,000,000 road appropriation, a temporary decrease in work relief demands; a year's delay in building the army's armament strength to 165,000 men; \$208,000,000 less for the CCC and a decrease of new funds for a number of "emergency" activities such as direct relief and the defunct N.R.A.

The President's legislative recommendations were few. He did ask repeal of last session's appropriation of a sum equal to 30 per cent of custom's receipts to the secretary of agriculture for encouraging the exportation and domestic consumption of agricultural commodities.

Amendment of the controversial compulsory potato control law was recommended along lines to be submitted by Secretary Wallace. Legislation was sought to put all Federal agencies, including government-owned and government-controlled corporations, under the budget director's authority with respect to apportionments of appropriations.

1936 Relief Load Estimated by FDR At \$2,136,000,000

(Continued from Page One.)

character of the coming relief plan.

The chief executive included in his budget \$2,347,171,532 for governmental activities that have heretofore been closed entirely as relief and recovery expenditures.

This included a \$105,000,000 federal public works program; \$619,347,000 for the agricultural adjustment administration; \$229,000,000 for the civilian conservation corps and \$1,102,824,532 for continuing PWA projects already underway.

With the exception of the money for the AAA, these funds will chiefly go to provide work relief next year. The \$1,102,824,532 is money already appropriated and allocated. Most of it will be used to continue the works program of former years.

The President included the new public works money and CCC funds in his regular budget, as permanent rather than emergency government activities. He said the public works cash would all go for federal projects and that the loan and grant system of public works would be liquidated except for the PWA's revolving fund.

Explaining the budget to newspapermen, the President said he had no idea how much he would eventually ask to continue the PWA.

He emphasized in his message to Congress, however, that to achieve his objective of a smaller deficit in 1937, than in 1936. The PWA fund would have to be less than \$2,136,000,000.

"I do not anticipate that the need for additional relief funds will be as great as that," he said.

Up To Industry

Using less formal words in describing the situation to correspondents, the chief executive said that \$2,136,000,000 was a kitty or leeway for handling the work relief problem, without increasing the deficit.

In his message, he suggested that one purpose of delaying decision on relief funds might be to emphasize to industry that the extent to which the budget was balanced depended upon how well it provided work for the jobless.

Discussing possibilities for a balanced budget, he said final success would depend on "efforts put forth by the employers of the United States greatly to increase the number of persons employed by them."

Two months from now, he will be in a better position to estimate relief needs for next year. But he indicated he would wait as long as he could without extending the session of Congress.

His suggestion of two months was based upon an estimate that a month would be necessary for action. He assumed Congress would still be here April 1.

There was no mention of new appropriations for low cost housing, denied Secretary Ickes' support of the billion-dollar program advanced by Senator Wagner (D. N. Y.). Only enough funds were included to complete this year's \$100,000,000 program. The \$405,000,000 new public works funds was divided specifically among

the various agencies.

The War Department received \$129,000,000 for rivers and harbors development and the reclamation bureau, with \$61,710,000.

In addition, \$9,600,000 would go to additional work on Boulder Dam, \$6,500,000 for the All-American Canal, \$3,500,000 for roads on Indian reservations, and \$6,500,000 for roads and trails in National Parks.

For Other Purposes

Appropriations asked for other public works: Agriculture Department, \$68,000,000, including \$60,000,000 for the Bureau of Public Roads and \$8,000,000 for forest roads and trails; Tennessee Valley Authority, \$43,000,000; Hospitals and Domiciliary facilities for the Veterans' administration, \$1,600,000; jail buildings and equipment, justice department, \$1,500,000; State Department (for the International boundary commission's activities in improving the Rio Grande), \$2,806,113; Treasury, \$61,050,000 for government building, including \$7,700,000 for construction within the district of Columbia.

Educating is the development of the whole human being, with all his possibilities, interests, and motives, as well as powers, his feelings and imagination no less than reason and

in time into steadily increasing surpluses, and that it is the deficit of today which is making possible the surplus of tomorrow, let us pursue the course that we have mapped."

The figures had been explained by him Saturday to more than 100 newsmen in his office. His "budget school for reporters," popping with questions and answers, lasted more than two hours.

Secretary Morgenthau, Daniel Bell, acting budget director, and other aides were at the President's side. Repeatedly he mingled with the business at hand.

In his partial relief budget, Mr. Roosevelt estimated a \$1,103,000,000 carryover from 1936's billions of relief money.

By deducting the estimated \$5,000,000 surplus, representing the difference between income and "regular" expenditures, he arrived at the partial estimate of the 1937 deficit—\$1,098,000,000.

This compared with an estimated \$3,234,000,000 deficit at the end of the current fiscal year on June 30—a difference of \$2,136,000,000. Mr. Roosevelt's nearest hint of how much future relief requests may be was: "I do not anticipate that the need for additional relief funds will be as great as that sum \$2,136,000,000."

"To state the case even more precisely, the gross deficit of the government in 1934 was \$3,989,000,000; in 1935 \$3,575,000,000; in 1936 (estimated) \$3,234,000,000; and in 1937 (estimated) but not including any new appropriations for work relief, \$1,098,000,000.

"Therefore, it is clear xxxx that

Invents "Third Eye"

Mr. Roosevelt said bluntly in the message read from the rostrum to senate and house, "I will need a total of \$5,069,000,000."

This figure, put forward as a new standard for the government's permanent operating costs, as differentiated from "emergency" outlays, exceeded comparative "regular" costs of recent years by around \$2,000,000,000.

Emergency Becomes "Permanent"

In a new expression of policy, Mr. Roosevelt moved federal public works, the Civilian Conservation Corps and agricultural benefit payments from the category of "emergency" to "regular" federal activities.

"Success" justified the change, he said.

Even the new high level of "regular" expenditures, it was said, would leave a \$5,000,000 surplus of revenue (before relief costs) as a result of "increased earning power and profits throughout the nation and not from the new taxes imposed" last summer.

In defense of new deal financial policies, Mr. Roosevelt added:

"The credit of the government is at its highest.

"The average business men of the nation stand ready to do their share.

"It is to be hoped that the motives and attacks which spring only from the desire for political or financial power on the part of the few will not retard the steady progress we are making.

"Our policy is succeeding. The figures prove it.

"Success in the knowledge that steadily decreasing deficits will turn



Dr. V. K. Zworykin and his "electron telescope" which, with the help of an invention by him, supplies man with a "third eye" enabling him to see in the dark. Dr. Zworykin and his associate inventor, Dr. George A. Morton, demonstrated their discovery at St. Louis science convention.

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