

Torrance Herald

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Published weekly at Torrance, California, and entered as second-class matter January 30, 1914, at the Postoffice at Torrance, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Mr. and Mrs. George Parr spent Sunday with relatives at Alhambra.

Dr. Dulcie Hinshaw of Long Beach was a recent dinner guest of Dr. Maude R. Chambers of Cota avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Partridge of Redondo Beach and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Higgins were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Jackson of Normandie avenue.

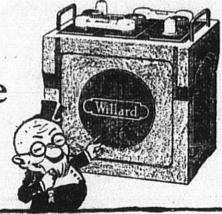
Mrs. F. L. Parks, Mrs. J. S. Lancaster, Mrs. Jamison, Mrs. J. H. Fitzhugh and Mrs. W. H. Gilbert are members of a committee selecting drapery and other furnishings for the new home of the Torrance Women's Club.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Acree of Gramercy avenue were Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Downer of Los Angeles.

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Motor Coach Company TIME TABLE

Table with 2 columns: Leave Torrance for Wilmington and Long Beach, and Leave Long Beach for Torrance. Times range from 7:15 to 11:25.

D-Daily except Sundays. S-Sunday only. \*Connects for Catalina Island.

The SKELETON FINGER



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BEGIN HERE TODAY SIR DUDLEY GLENISTER, English baronet, recently came into the title through the death of a cousin, George Glenister, royally entertains some friends at a hunt and picnic on his estates. There while preparing lunch—

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY CHAPTER II The "Dark Secret"

THE silence which followed Kathleen's assertion was a tribute to its obvious good sense. The inference that, since the crowd could not have carried the fleshless finger from the other side of the Atlantic, its owner must have died within range of the bird's flight, could not be gainsaid.

With varying degrees of directness, the eyes of nearly all present were turned on the man who, whether George Glenister had died near or far, had so enormously benefited by his death.

The only exceptions to the ocular battery aimed at Sir Dudley Glenister were Lady Marrables, who munched a peach in perfect unconcern, and Doctor Willoughby Melville, who seemed to be absorbed in introspection.

The tension was broken by Sir Dudley, who had not appeared to notice the scrutiny bent on him. His gaze had been riveted on the skeleton finger.

"Let me have a squint at the thing," he said dully.

The grisly horror was passed along the table.

"That's the Glenister crest all right—the two-headed gryphon," he said. "But it doesn't follow that this is George's ring, or that, if it was, this is George's finger."

The neighboring squires and the sporting parson bade their host good day. Mr. Stephen Colne's farewells were elaborate.

"You will be taking steps to have this cleared up," he suavely remarked as though it were a matter of course. "If my influence with the Home Office can be of any service to you, Glenister, pray command me."

"What has the Home Office got to do with it?" Sir Dudley demanded with a note of defiance.

wish. You must remember that I am a soldier by training—not a detective, which is what you appear to want."

"Now you are being a dear," Kathleen received her swain back into favor. "Of course, I don't expect the impossible. You could not ferret out Dudley's dark secret single-handed, any more than I could myself. But I am afraid of my cousin, and I may be in danger, Norman, when he discovers that I am going to leave no stone unturned to detect his crime. I shall feel more secure if someone I can trust knows of the task I have set myself, and of my cowardly fears."

"If that is the way you look at it, I am with you—up to the neck. Not that there's any cowardice about you, Katy. One hates fuss, but one couldn't help smelling a rat, don't you know. Dudley didn't strike me as facing the music with an air of complete innocence. A mixture of bluff and funk, eh?"

The young people had resumed their walk now. "I noticed every inflection of his voice, every shade about you, Katy. One hates fuss, but one couldn't help smelling a rat, don't you know. Dudley didn't strike me as facing the music with an air of complete innocence. A mixture of bluff and funk, eh?"

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"I shall insist, under threat of calling in the police, that all the men on the estate are turned out to search for the body. We shall see how he takes it."

But it is one thing to propose and another to dispose when the spectre of murder has started walking about the countryside. The host at Beechwood Grange was seen no more during the afternoon, and when at last he had to meet his guests at dinner he was in a black mood which forbade any reference to the episode at the picnic lunch. He took a good deal of wine and bullied the servants. Nevertheless, when dessert had been placed on the table and the servants had left the room, Kathleen tackled him with a directness that drew Willoughby Melville's bushy brows together in a thoughtful frown.

"I suppose, Cousin Dudley, that you are going to have a search made?"



"Don't look so scared," she whispered. "It's me, not you, that's up against Mrs. Grundy if we're spotted."

"Quite possibly nothing at all, but a good deal if the body from which the crowd pecked that gruesome relic is discovered."

The outside shooting guests having departed, the house party grouped itself for the walk home through the covert. Doctor Melville, who had obtained permission to keep the finger, fell in at the side of his host, to whom also Mrs. Coningsby attached herself. Norman Slater and Kathleen brought up the rear, by mutual consent lagging behind—out of earshot. "The girls' face was set and hard."

"I have thought all along that there was foul play," she said. "Now I know it. My brother didn't die in America. Dudley murdered him, and he is lying unburied somewhere in these woods."

Kathleen halted in the woodland path and laid her hand on his sleeve. "Look here, my friend," she said. "I like you very much, and I admire your honesty and proved courage. But if there is one thing I can't abide it is stupidity. If you are going to be stupid, I shall not only cease to like you, but I shall have no use for you—in any capacity, mind."

"Behold me, then, as bright as they make 'em," replied Norman earnestly. "At least," he added the saving clause, "I will reflect your brightness by doing whatever you

(To Be Continued)

TORRANCE NEWSLETS

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Richhart of San Fernando were weekend guests of Mrs. Richhart's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Tomkins, of Gramercy avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Bradford attended the Cabrillo theatre in San Pedro Sunday evening.

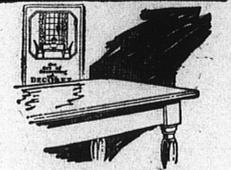
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Balo of Carson street attended the Sunday evening sermons at the First Christian Church in Long Beach.

Marion Reeve, a member of the Torrance Hardware force, is having a week's vacation.

Mrs. J. V. Murray of Andreo avenue is visiting friends at San Gabriel.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wicker

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and daughter, of Amapola avenue, were entertained recently by Mrs. Wicker's parents at Whittier.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Webb of Amapola avenue were recent dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alva Butler of Park Terrace.

Mrs. Andrew Hamilton is at her home, recovering from the effects of a minor operation performed recently at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital.

S. H. Bradbury has been a business visitor in Tulare County this week.

Mr. and Mrs. William Shantler of Chateau Thierry were visitors at G. H. Bradford home Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. Hackley of Fresno and Mrs. Agnes Gamble were entertained at dinner Saturday by Rev. and Mrs. F. A. Zeller of Marcelina avenue.

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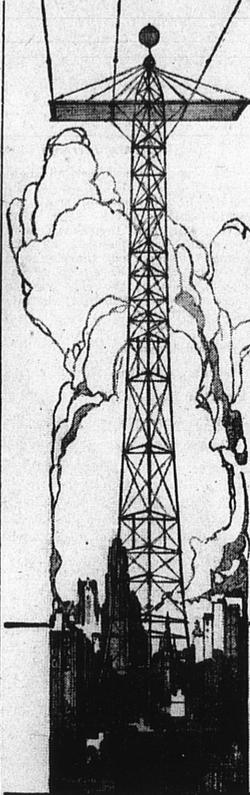
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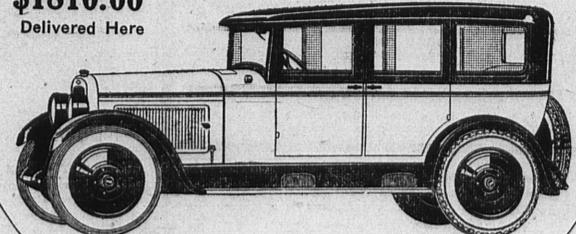
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