



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #46

NBC #21⁴

RELEASE DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1953

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON

AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

MUSIC: WALTER SCHUMANN

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON

SCRIPT: JEAN MILES

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

SOUND: BUD TOLLEFSON &
WAYNE KENWORTHY

SGT. MARTY WYNN: L.A.P.D.

ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY

SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.

ANNCR. #1.: GEORGE FENNEMAN

CAPT. JOHN DONOHOE: L.A.P.D.

ANNCR. #2.: HAL GIBNEY, NBC

CASE: "THE BIG SLIP"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

RECORDING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1953

CAST AND SOUND: 3:00 - 5:30 P.M.

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: T.B.A.

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 9:00 - 9:30 P.M. -- STUDIO J - BY T.R.

DRAGNET

"THE BIG SLIP"

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY. JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH BEN ALEXANDER
JESSE MCGOWAN. HERB VIGRAN
LOUIS CARDER JACK KRUSCHEN
HAROLD DRAKE HERB ELLIS

DRAGNET - RADIO
FOR BROADCAST: 9-15-53

-1-

- 1 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"
- 2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.
- 3 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"..... DRUM ROLL
- 4 GIBNEY: Chesterfield...low in nicotine...highest in quality...
- 5 best for you.
- 6 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL CONTINUES
- 7 GIBNEY: Chesterfield brings you Dragnet.
- 8 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE
- 9 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about
- 10 to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect
- 11 the innocent.
- 12 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR
- 13 FENN: You're a Detective Sergeant. You're assigned to Auto
- 14 Theft Detail. You get a call from the owner of a used
- 15 car lot. He tells you, he thinks he bought a stolen
- 16 car. Your job....check it out. 58
- 17 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET, RADIO
Sept. 8, 1953

FIRST COMMERCIAL

60

1 FENN: Before you buy your next pack of cigarettes, think this
2 over.....A doctor has been examining a group of
3 Chesterfield smokers, with special attention to the nose,
4 throat and sinuses. His latest report...After a full
5 year and a half ... says - No adverse effects from
6 smoking Chesterfield. Don't you want to try a cigarette
7 with a record like this? Chesterfield ... regular or
8 king-size ... they're low in nicotine ... Highest in
9 quality ... Best for you.

115

1/20

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by
5 step on the side of the law through an actual case
6 transcribed from official police files. From beginning
7 to end...from crime to punishment...Dragnet is the
8 story of your Police force in action.

9 MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD

10 SOUND: JOE'S STEPS DOWN CORRIDOR...SLIGHT ECHO AND B.G.

11 JOE: It was Monday, May 4. It was warm in Los Angeles. We
12 were working the day watch out of Auto Theft Detail.
13 My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Nelson.
14 My name's Friday. I was on my way into the office and
15 it was 7:56 AM when I got to Room 40 (SOUND: DOOR OPEN
16B.G. CHANGE) Auto Theft.

17 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO THE ROOM...DOOR CLOSES BEHIND HIM....
18 SQUADROOM B.G.

19 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Joe?

20 JOE: Yeah.

21 SOUND: JOE WALKS OVER TO FRANK

22 JOE: When'd you get in?

23 FRANK: 'Bout 7:30. I woke up at five, couldn't get back to
24 sleep.

25 JOE: What's the matter?

26 FRANK: Joe, I'm so sore, I don't think I can lift a pencil
27 to make out a report.

1 JOE: Yeah. What happened?
2 FRANK: Baseball.
3 JOE: Baseball?
4 FRANK: Yeah. Tell you something Joe...I found out, I ain't
5 no Chuck Stevens.
6 JOE: That right?
7 FRANK: Yeah. Yesterday morning, I got up early. Gonna do a
8 little work in the garden. Beautiful day. Felt great.
9 JOE: Yeah.
10 FRANK: Got out in the back yard. Gonna do a little work.
11 Take it easy....listen to the ball game..y'know. Easy
12 day.
13 JOE: Uh huh.
14 FRANK: 'Bout 10....the guy next door...Neal Radcliff came
15 over.
16 JOE: He's the guy with the fire department, isn't he?
17 FRANK: No Joe...that's Bud Hendricks. Neal works for an
18 insurance company.
19 JOE: Oh yeah.
20 FRANK: Well, 'bout 10....Old Neal hops over the fence. Right
21 away I figured he wanted to try out some new sales
22 talk on me.
23 JOE: Sales talk?
24 FRANK: Yeah. Y'see, whenever his company comes out with a
25 new policy, Neal writes a little talk to give to the
26 customers. He always tried 'em out on me.

1 JOE: Oh yeah.

2 FRANK: He's pretty good too. Up to now, I've bought 2
3 hundred and 46 thousand dollars worth of insurance.

4 JOE: What?

5 FRANK: That's on paper Joe...just on paper.

6 JOE: Oh yeah. Well, what happened yesterday.

7 FRANK: Well, Neal's company is gonna sponsor a team in the
8 Little League. Y'know kids...they play baseball.

9 JOE: Yeah....I think I read something about it in the papers.

10 FRANK: Yeah...they're pretty good. 2/100

11 JOE: Uh huh.

12 FRANK: Well, Neal's got a sort of try out game lined up for
13 his team. Practice.

14 JOE: Yeah.

15 FRANK: Wants me to umpire.

16 JOE: Do you know anything about bein' an umpire?

17 FRANK: Sure Joe. Besides Neal figures since I'm an officer..
18 the kids'll believe me. He had a little trouble with
19 'em last week.

20 JOE: I always thought you had to go to some sort of a
21 school or something to be an umpire.

22 FRANK: Y'do Joe for the regular leagues. But this was just a
23 practice game. Neals team and some kids in the
24 neighborhood.

25 JOE: Uh huh.

1 FRANK: Well, I told him I'd do it. I changed my clothes and
2 went out to the park with him. Y'know, I thought it
3 might be good public relations for the police
4 department.
5 JOE: Yeah.
6 FRANK: Joe....those kids are in the wrong league.
7 JOE: What?
8 FRANK: They're murderers.
9 JOE: What'dya mean?
10 FRANK: Way they play the game...I never saw such ball.
11 JOE: That right.
12 FRANK: Yeah. I figured...y'know...soft ball...under-hand
13 pitching. Be easy to call.
14 JOE: Yeah.
15 FRANK: It's regulation hardball Joe. Bases are a little *Alto*
16 closer but it's just like the leagues. And the way
17 those kids throw the ball. Couple of times there, I
18 thought they were just kiddin'. I'd hear this thump
19 and never see the ball. I thought the kid catcher was
20 just hittin' his hand in his glove. Then all of a sudden
21 he'd turn around and there'd be the ball..
22 JOE: Yeah, well how'd you get so sore. If you just umpired
23 the game, you stood in one place, didn't you?
24 FRANK: While I was umpiring the game, yeah. But this team
25 of Neals was skunkin' the other kids so bad that we
26 had a little reorganization.
27 JOE: Reorganization?

5/30

1 FRANK: Yeah. End of the ~~second~~ inning score was 14 to 2. I thought
2 that was a little unfair on the neighborhood kids.
3 JOE: Uh huh.
4 FRANK: So, I got out and played first base for 'em. Played five
5 straight innings.
6 JOE: Yeah.
7 FRANK: Finally had to quit, I could hardly move. Didn't seem to
8 make any difference where I was. . .those kids weren't.
9 They ran me ragged.
10 JOE: Yeah. Well, maybe you better take it a little easy today,
11 huh?
12 FRANK: I got to, Joe. I rubbed liniment on my back all night. All
13 over my arms and legs. I'm so sore. . .it even hurt to get
14 dressed this morning.
15 JOE: Uh huh. What was the final score?
16 FRANK: At the end of the second. . .it was 14 to 2 in favor of
17 the Little Saints. That's Neal's team.
18 JOE: Yeah, but what'd it end up with?
19 (BEAT)
20 FRANK: I didn't even get one hit.
21 JOE: Y'didn't.
22 FRANK: Up at bat three times. Didn't even get a hit.
23 JOE: That's too bad. What was the final score.

5/30

1 FRANK: 46 to 12 when I left. That was at the end of the 7th. The
2 little Saints were up when I left. They'd run through the
3 batting line up twice. Way they were goin', I think they
4 were gonna have to call the game on account of darkness.
5 They'd been up for over an hour. Only had one out. 6/100

6 JOE: They sound pretty good.

7 FRANK: Murderers. These kids grow up and there isn't a ball club
8 in the country that's gonna have a chance against 'em. I
9 never saw anything like 'em, Joe.

10 JOE: Sure like to have been there to see you play.

11 FRANK: It was pretty bad, Joe.

12 JOE: Was huh?

13 FRANK: When I left, they had me marked down for 10 errors.

14 JOE: Ten.

15 FRANK: In five innings.

16 JOE: Uh huh.

17 FRANK: You gotta be pretty bad to run up a score like that.

18 JOE: Yeah.

19 FRANK: And I was.

20 SOUND: PHONE RING

21 JOE: I'll get it.

22 SOUND: HE WALKS TO PHONE AND PUNCHES BUTTON. PICKS UP PHONE

1 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Auto theft, Friday. Yes sir. Uh huh. Sure,
2 we can come out. Yes sir. What's your name again please?
3 . . .Uh huh. . .and the address? Yeah. .. Yeah, I got it.
4 Alright sir. . .we'll be right out.

7/00

5 SOUND: PHONE HANG UP

6 FRANK: What'ya got?

7 JOE: You aren't gonna get much rest today. Used car dealer out
8 on Washington boulevard.

9 FRANK: Yeah?

7/08

10 JOE: He thinks he bought a stolen car.

11 END SCENE I

12 JOE: 8:15AM we left the office and drove out to the McGowan
13 Car Company. It was a large lot on Washington Boulevard.
14 Along the front of the place, there was a line of late
15 model cars, each advertised as "today's special". We
16 walked through the aisles of automobiles to the office
17 in a trailer at the back of the lot. There was no one
18 around, so we knocked on the door and waited.

7/30

19 SOUND: OUTDOOR B.G. TRAFFIC ON STREET SLIGHTLY OFF

20 FRANK: He said he'd be here didn't he?

21 JOE: Yeah. I told him we'd be right out.

22 FRANK: Maybe he's gone out for breakfast.

23 SOUND: TRAILER DOOR OPENS

24 JESSE: Yeah?

25 JOE: Mr. McGowan?

1 JESSE: That's right.
2 JOE: Police officers sir. You called our office.
3 JESSE: Oh, yeah. . .come on in.
4 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK TAKE A STEP UP INTO THE TRAILER. . .WOODEN
5 FLOOR.
6 JESSE: C'mon in the back. Just havin' a cup of coffee. Fix you
7 guys up with one?
8 JOE: No sir. . .not for me.
9 JESSE: (TO FRANK) How 'bout you?
10 FRANK: Yes sir. . .I'll have a cup with you.
11 JESSE: Good. Go on back and sit down. . .I'll bring it right
12 back.
13 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK TO THE BACK OF THE TRAILER AND SIT
14 DOWN.
15 JESSE: (LITTLE OFF) Say. . .I didn't get you fellas names.
16 FRANK: My name's Frank Smith. . .this is my partner, Sergeant
17 Friday.
18 JESSE: Glad to meet you. . .I talked to you on the phone didn't
19 I Mr. Friday?
20 JOE: Yes sir. 8/00
21 JESSE: (FADING IN) Thought so. Never forget a name. Never do.
22 Here's your coffee.
23 SOUND: HE PUTS THE COFFEE DOWN ON THE TABLE.
24 JESSE: I'm Jesse McGowan. Guys on the row are all the time kiddin'
25 me about my first name. Jesse. Get it?
26 JOE: Beg pardon?

1 JESSE: Jesse. . .Jesse James. (HE SEES NO REACTION SO HE GOES ON)
2 Anyway, what I wanted to tell you about was this guy who
3 came in Saturday night.

4 JOE: Last Saturday?

5 JESSE: Yeah. Y'see we stay open until 10 on Saturday night. This
6 guy must have come in about 9. Jack went over to take care
7 of him but the fella said he wanted to see the manager,
8 so Jack brought him back here.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 JESSE: He said he had a car he wanted to sell. Brand new Merc.
11 Beautiful car. (TO FRANK) ~~Say~~. . .I gotta box of doughnuts *SP*
12 here if you'd like one.

13 FRANK: No thanks.

14 JESSE: Think I'll have one. Didn't get a chance to eat this
15 morning. Got to worrying about this deal.

16 SOUND: HE GETS UP AND TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS, THEN COMES BACK
17 AND PUTS CARDBOARD BOX ON TABLE. OPENS IT.

18 JESSE: Got some of those new kind with the cinnamon on top.
19 (TAKES A BITE) Umm...sure good. (TAKES A DRINK OF COFFEE)
20 Well, I told this guy that we'd like to buy the car but
21 that we were kinda over stocked on Mercs.

22 JOE: Yeah.

23 JESSE: He said that he'd just come out from the east and bought
24 the car when he got here. Said that right after he paid
25 for it, he lost his job and he had to get some money out
26 of it.

1 FRANK: Uh huh.

2 JESSE: I asked him if he'd like to make a trade. Y'know. . .a 9/20
3 transportation car and money to boot. Offered him a good
4 deal on a Nash Rambler. Just got a couple 51's in.

5 JOE: Yes sir.

6 JESSE: He said that he wanted to sell the car outright. Said he
7 was goin' to leave town and that he wanted to get his
8 money out of the car. I asked him how much he wanted for
9 it.

10 JOE: Yeah.

11 JESSE: He told me he'd let it go for 22 hundred bucks. That's
12 about 8 hundred under what he must have paid for it.
13 Right away I figured that there was something wrong. So
14 I had our mechanic look it over. Only had 32 hundred miles
15 on it. Hardly broke in. Beautiful. . .Radio, heater. . .
16 white sidewalls. Continental hook up. Real Beaut.

17 FRANK: What'd your mechanic say about it?

18 JESSE: Said it was in perfect shape. So I asked the guy who was
19 the legal owner.

20 JOE: Yeah. 9/30

21 JESSE: He said he was . . .that he'd paid cash for it. Had the
22 pink slip. Made out to him alright. He had the
23 identification to go with it.

24 JOE: You bought the car then.

25 JESSE: Yeah. Sure looked like a good deal. I gave him a certified
26 check made out to cash for the amount, he gave me the keys.
27 That was the last I saw of him.

1 JOE: Well, why do you think there's something wrong with the
2 deal?

3 JESSE: For the first thing. . .the price he wanted for the car.
4 It's too low. I had the feeling that if I'd given him any
5 trouble on it, he'da come down on it.

6 JOE: You have the pink slip here?

7 JESSE: Yeah. I brought it with me this morning. I got it here in
8 my wallet.

9 SOUND: UNDER HE TAKES OUT HIS WALLET AND LOOKS THROUGH IT FOR THE
10 PINK SLIP

11 JOE: Any other reason you think the deal might be phoney?

12 JESSE: Had to put into words, Sergeant. Nothin' I could point
13 out to you. Just a feeling. You stay in this business
14 very long and you kinda' get to know people.

15 SOUND: HE FINDS THE PINK SLIP AND TAKES IT OUT OF HIS WALLET.
16 HE UNFOLDS IT AND HANDS IT TO JOE.

17 JESSE: Here it is.

18 JOE: Thanks.

19 JESSE: Yeah. . .there's been a lot of gags about used car
20 salesmen. About how we're always after somebody. Most of
21 the time though it's the other way around.

22 FRANK: That right.

1 JESSE: Yeah. The bums were put out of business right after the
2 war. Public wouldn't stand for the way they did business.
3 Y'gotta rely on people comin' back if you're gonna come
4 out in the long run. I guess it's like almost any other
5 kinda' business.

6 FRANK: Suppose so.

7 JESSE: You should'a see some of the cars I got stuck on during
8 the war thought. Real gems. Cork in the transmission. . .
9 cracked block's fixed up so the car would just make it
10 here. They tell stories about what us used car dealers
11 did to the public. I tell, you. . .what the public did
12 to us was worse than the stories. I been in business here
13 for almost twenty years. About half of my customers are
14 old ones. . .people who've bought cars from me before.
15 Any kinda business. . .you gotta build faith. Return
16 business.

17 JOE: What kind of identification did the man have to prove he
18 was this Louis Carder? 10/30

19 JESSE: Tell you the truth sergeant. . .I didn't ask for any. He
20 had the pink slip. . .price he was askin' was right. We
21 checked the block and body number. . .it was the one listed
22 on the slip. No reason to believe that he didn't own the
23 car.

24 FRANK: How 'bout it Joe?

25 JOE: Looks like it's one of the slips from D.M.V. in San Diego.

26 JESSE: Y'mean there is something wrong?

27 JOE: May I use your phone sir?

11 JESSE: You bet. It's right there....help yourself.
12 JOE: Thanks.
13 ~~SOUND: HE PICKS UP THE PHONE AND BRINGS IT OVER TO THE TABLE.~~
14 JOE: (TO JESSE) Can I dial a Michigan number from here?
15 JESSE: Yeah.
16 ~~SOUND: JOE PICKS UP THE PHONE AND DIALS MI - 5211~~ 11/00
17 PAUSE
18 JOE: (INTO PHONE) 2507 Please....Yeah.....Auto Theft.
19 (BEAT) Hi, this is Joe Friday. Say...we got a pick
20 slip out here...looks like it's one of those that
21 were stolen from D.M.V. down south. You got the list
22 there? Yeah...I'll wait.
23 JESSE: Y'mean somebody stole a pink slip from the Department?
24 JOE: Yes sir...near as we can figure it....about 2 dozen.
25 JESSE: Never heard of that.

1 JOE: This is the first one of them to turn up..(INTO PHONE) 11/30
2 Yeah. Made out to a Louis Franklin Carder....No...C -
3 Charley. Yeah...a-r-d-e-r. Yeah. Yeah. Registration
4 number's 660 - 667 Address ... 4287 Ingraham Street. L.A. 12/10
5 5. Engine number 58550925...no 0925...that's right.
6 Mercury...8...Rv6...psu. Sold 2-53 license number LR2-951-
7 P.A. 326773...yeah that's right. Legal the same. Uh huh.
8 Yeah. That's what we figured. You got anything on the car?
9 Un huh. No it was sold Saturday night. Yeah...should be
10 something out on it. Yeah. Okay...thanks.
11 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE 12/30
12 JESSE: How 'bout it...the car stolen?
13 JOE: No report yet sir.
14 JESSE: I gotta call the bank.
15 FRANK: You said you gave the man a certified check?
16 JESSE: Yeah...I gotta stop payment on it. Ain't gonna be easy
17 either. He can cash it anyplace. Sure looks like I'm out
18 22 hundred dollars.
19 JOE: Isn't likely he's been able to cash it by this time.
20 JESSE: Maybe not but I'll give long odds that he's standing in
21 line when the doors open.
22 SOUND: HE PICKS UP THE RECEIVER AND DIALS RE - 20141
23 JESSE: (AS HE WAITS) Doesn't sound like there's anybody there yet.

1 JOE: Just 8:25.

2 JESSE: I'll keep tryin'. I gotta stop that check.

3 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE

4 JESSE: Y'see what I mean?

5 JOE: What's that?

6 JESSE: About the jokes. How we're the ones always tryin' to
7 get away with a fast deal. No such thing. Take this
8 one for instance.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 JESSE: I bought that car in good faith. Paid cash for it.
11 Gave the guy just what he asked for.

12 JOE: Not quite.

13 JESSE: Huh?

14 JOE: He's gonna get more than than.

END SCENE 2

1 JOE: We got a complete description of the suspect, Louis
2 Carder. We put out a local and an A.P.B. on him and
3 then we asked Dean Bergman to come out and go over the
4 car for fingerprints. The owner of the used car lot,
5 Jesse McGowan told us the car had been washed and
6 cleaned thoroughly and that he didn't think we'd be
7 able to come up with any fingerprints. 9:00 A.M. we
8 put in a call to the bank and asked them to stop
9 payment on the check and to notify their branch offices
10 to do the same. McGowan supplied the number of the
11 check and the information was gotten out to other banks
12 and check cashing agencies in the area. Bergman
13 finished checking the car and told us that the only *Ador*
14 print he'd been able to find was a partial thumb print
15 under the dashboard. We rolled the prints of the man
16 who'd wash the car along with those of McGowan and the
17 other people on the lot who'd come in contact with the
18 car. None of their's matched. We checked with the
19 office and told them that we would check out the address
20 listed on the pink slip. 9:37 A.M. we pulled up in
21 front of 4287 Ingraham Street. It was a large two
22 story place that had been converted into a rooming
23 house. There were several cars parked in the front
24 yard. We went up to the front door and rang the bell.

25 SOUND: OUTDOOR B.G.

26 FRANK: Wanna try it again? *14/30*

1 JOE: Yeah.

2 SOUND: HE TWIST AN OLD FASHIONED DOOR BELL

3 FRANK: I didn't know there were any of those around anymore.

4 Don't see many of 'em nowadays.

5 JOE: Huh?

6 FRANK: Doorbell.

7 JOE: Oh yeah.

8 SOUND: THE DOOR OPENS

9 CARDER: (SLEEPY) Yeah?

10 JOE: Like to see Louis Carder.

11 CARDER: I'm him.....what d'ya want?

12 JOE: Police officers... like to talk to you.

13 CARDER: Cops? What d'ya want with me.

14 JOE: Might be better if we talked inside.

15 CARDER: Huh?

16 JOE: Inside.

17 CARDER: Oh yeah. C'mon in. (HE YAWNS) I just got up.

18 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE HOUSE. DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM

19 CARDER: Either one of you guys gotta cigarette?

20 JOE: Yeah...here y'are. *5100*

21 CARDER: (GRUNTS) ~~Thanks.~~ (HE PATS THE POCKETS OF HIS BATHROBE)

22 How bout a match.

23 FRANK: Here.

21 CARDER: What d'ya wanna see me about. Somethin' wrong?
22 JOE: You own a 53 mercury convertable?
23 CARDER: Yeah. Why?
24 JOE: You know where it is?
25 CARDER: Should be out in front. Why?
26 JOE: You leave the keys in your car when you park it?
27 CARDER: Once in a while, I forget it, yeah. , I don't know if
28 it's there now though.
29 FRANK: Your car's been stolen Mr. Carder.
30 CARDER: What?
31 FRANK: Your car's been stolen.
32 BEAT
33 SOUND: CARDER GOES TO THE FRONT DOOR AND OPENS IT. HE GOES
34 OUT ON THE PORCH AND LOOKS FOR THE CAR THEN COMES
35 BACK IN THE ROOM.
36 CARDER: You got it back for me.... that it? 1519
37 JOE: No sir. It was sold Saturday night.
38 CARDER: Sold? To who?
39 FRANK: A used car dealer out on Washington.
40 JOE: Who owns the car?
41 CARDER: I do.
42 JOE: You have the pink slip on it?
43 CARDER: No...I didn't get it back from the Department of Motor
44 Vehicles yet. Why?
45 JOE: Man that sold the car had the pink slip with him.

1 CARDER: Well, I don't care if he did have it. Car doesn't
2 belong to him. He had no right to sell it.
3 FRANK: When's the last time you saw the car?
4 CARDER: I guess it was Saturday afternoon. I came home early.
5 Parked it out in front. . Yeah....Saturday afternoon.
6 FRANK: How is it you didn't know the car was taken?
7 CARDER: Officer....you saw the front of this place. Must be *16/10*
8 half a dozen cars parked out there. The roomers. They
9 use the yard.
10 JOE: You didn't use the car over the week end then.
11 CARDER: No I didn't. I got home Saturday afternoon like I told
12 you. I spent the whole week end doin' some painting
13 in one of the upstairs rooms. It's been vacant a long
14 time and I figured that maybe if I put a little paint
15 on it I might be able to rent it.
16 JOE: Uh huh.
17 CARDER: Y'see, my wife used to take care of the place. She and I
18 had some trouble and she went back east to see her
19 mother. Seems like the house went to pot after she
20 left. We're really gonna have trouble when she comes
21 back and sees this mess.
22 JOE: How many people you have living here?
23 CARDER: (THINKING) Lemme see. Nipe. *16/30*

1 JOE: Uh huh. Like you to take a look at this description
2 and see if any of 'em fit it.
3 SOUND: JOE HANDS HIM A PIECE OF PAPER
4 CARDER: You figure it might be one of them?
5 JOE: Like you to check the description.
6 CARDER: Uh huh....(HE READS THE LIST) No...no....I'm pretty
7 sure it isn't one of them. None of 'em match this.
8 JOE: Wonder if you could give us their names?
9 CARDER: Sure, I can. Why do you have to have 'em?
10 FRANK: Routine.
11 CARDER: Oh. ..yeah. Well, I can give 'em to you but I'm sure
12 they aren't mixed up in it.
13 JOE: Yes sir.
14 CARDER: Thing I can't figure is how he got the pink slip.
15 FRANK: It was stolen.
16 CARDER: From the state?
17 FRANK: Yes sir. Last month, someone broke into their offices
18 in San Diego and stole two dozen registration slips. *17/10*
19 CARDER: How much did he get for the car?
20 JOE: 22 hundred dollars.
21 CARDER: 22 hundred. Thing cost me over 3 thousand. That was
22 just a few months ago. Imagine...sellin' a car like
23 that for 22 hundred. That guy's really a jerk.
24 JOE: Yes sir. ..in more than one way.

END SCENE 3

1 JOE: 10:15 A.M. We went by the used car lot and picked up the
2 owner. We took him down to the city hall and had him
3 check the mugg books. After going through the pictures
4 he was unable to give us an identification of the man
5 who'd sold him the stolen automobile. We checked the names
6 of the people who lived at Louis Carder's house. ~~One~~ of 17/3
7 them had a record of an arrest on charges of violation of
8 section 4127 A of the Los Angeles Municipal code. He'd
9 served a short term in the city jail and been released.
10 His physical description however, did not match that of
11 the suspect we were looking for. 11:35 A.M. we had the
12 used car dealer taken back to his lot and Frank and I
13 checked into the office.

14 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G.

15 FRANK: 'Bout the only thing we got workin' for us is the check.

16 JOE: Yeah. Hope they get the word out in time.

17 FRANK: He get's his hands on that money and he can go a long way.

18 SOUND: PHONE RING.....FAST PICK UP

19 JOE: Auto theft, Friday. Yes sir we did...uh huh. Right. Yes
20 sir. That's right. We'll be there as soon as we can make
21 it. Right.....'bye.

22 SOUND: PHONE HANG UP. JOE GET'S UP AND STARTS TO MOVE TOWARD

23 DOOR

1 JOE: He isn't goin' far.

2 FRANK: Huh?

3 JOE: He's at the bank now.

4 END SCENE 4

5 END ACT I

6 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dagnet, the authentic story of your
7 police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

18/13

DRAGNET RADIO
SEPT. 22, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

18/29

1
2 GIBNEY: ~~At~~ cigarette dealers... (SOUND - CASH REGISTER)
3 In vending machines.... (SOUND - COIN AND PLUNGER)
4 At supermarkets and stores coast-to-coast.....
5 WOMAN: Chesterfields, please. 18/45
6 FENN: Smokers by the thousands.... yes, smokers by the
7 thousands....are now changing to Chesterfield --
8 the only cigarette ever to give you - One.....
9 GIBNEY: Proof of low nicotine - highest quality. 19/00
10 FENN: Chemical analyses of the country's six leading brands
11 confirms that. ~~Two~~ - the only cigarette ever to give you
12 this proven record with smokers. Again and again, over
13 a full year and one-half....a group of Chesterfield
14 smokers have been given thorough medical examinations.
15 The doctor's reports are a matter of record. 19/15
16 GIBNEY: No adverse effects to the nose, throat and sinuses
17 from smoking Chesterfield.
18 FENN: A responsible independent research laboratory supervises
19 this continuing program. Chesterfield - the only
20 cigarette ever with a record like this. Chesterfield -
Best for you. 19/28

1 JOE: We'd gotten a call from a branch office of the bank the
2 check had been drawn on. At 11:34 A.M. that morning, a
3 man had walked into the bank and presented a check for
4 the amount of 22 hundred dollars drawn on the account
5 of Jesse McGowan. Because of the amount of the check, *20/100*
6 It had to be okayed by the head ~~cashier~~ sashier. Fortunately,
7 he'd gotten the information about the check and had stalled
8 the suspect long enough to call us. He was able to keep
9 him waiting until we got there. The man was taken into
10 custody without trouble. He denied having anything to do
11 with the stolen car and said that we'd made a mistake.
12 We took him downtown and started to question him.

13 HAROLD: I tell you, I don't know what this is all about. I'd like
14 to help you out but there's nothing I can do.

15 JOE: Frank?

16 FRANK: Yeah.

17 JOE: You wanna get in touch with McGowan and have him come
18 over?

19 FRANK: Yeah.....right away.

20 SOUND: FRANK EXITS THE INTERROGATION ROOM. AS HE OPENS THE DOOR,
21 THE CORRIDOR B.G. COMES UP.

22 BEAT

23 JOE: You wanna tell me again where you got that check? *20/100*

24 HAROLD: What? It's against the law to have a check?

25 JOE: Like to know where you got this one?

26 HAROLD: I won it.

1 JOE: Where?

2 HAROLD: I don't know what this is all about. I'm not about to get
3 any of my friends in trouble by namin' them. I got
4 nothin to do with this....let alone my pals.

5 JOE: You'll save yourself a lot more trouble if you'll tell me
6 where you got the check.

7 HAROLD: Alright. I won it in a poker game.

8 JOE: Pretty high stakes.

9 HAROLD: We gave up kids games.

10 JOE: Who'd you win it from?

11 HAROLD: I told you I wasn't gonna name any names.

12 JOE: We're gonna get 'em sooner or later. You know that.

13 HAROLD: Not from me you aren't.

14 JOE: You build it any way you want to.

15 HAROLD: That's the way I figure it.

16 JOE: When was this poker game?

17 HAROLD: Saturday night.

18 JOE: Where?

19 HAROLD: Sorry...that's another one I can't answer.

20 JOE: You been in San Diego lately?

21 HAROLD: Not for a couple of months.

22 JOE: When's the last time you were down there?

23 HAROLD: I don't remember right off.

24 JOE: It'll help you if you can.

1 HAROLD: What d'ya mean help me. I got no trouble. You guys make
2 a pinch while I'm trying to cash a check. I won the
3 money. It was payment for a debt. All I was trying to do
4 was get my money. There's nothin' wrong with that?

5 JOE: If there's nothin' wrong why won't you tell us who you won
6 the money from?

7 HAROLD: And have you guys throw a beef at them? Nothin' doin'.
8 I've read where you fellas spend your time breakin' up a
9 game of old maid.

10 JOE: This is a little more serious than that.

11 HAROLD: Maybe to you. I got no problem. All I gotta do is sit
12 tight.

13 JOE: You keep believin' that mister. And you keep actin' like
14 this and you'll see what a problem you've got.

15 SOUND: DOOR OPENS AND FRANK COMES IN

16 FRANK: McGowan's on his way over ~~Joe~~.

17 HAROLD: Who's McGowan?

18 JOE: He's the man who wrote the check you tried to cash.

19 HAROLD: Waste of time. He don't know me.

20 JOE: We'll let him decide that.

21 HAROLD: Go ahead...have your fun.

22 FRANK: Couple of questions we'd like to ask you.

23 HAROLD: Go ahead. I got nothin' more important to do.

24 SOUND: FRANK OPENS A PACKAGE

1 FRANK: Checked your name through our identification bureau. Came
2 up with some pretty interesting things.
3 HAROLD: That right.
4 FRANK: Yeah.
5 JOE: Lemme see Frank.
6 FRANK: Here.
7 SOUND: JOE TAKES PACKAGE AND LOOKS THROUGH IT.
8 JOE: Your true name Harold Drake....that right?
9 HAROLD: Yeah.
10 JOE: Your address is listed 2917 Ledgewood Drive, that right?
11 HAROLD: Yeah.
12 JOE: You told me you'd never been arrested.
13 HAROLD: I haven't.
14 JOE: Want you to take a look at a picture.
15 HAROLD: You got the room rigged for movies?
16 JOE: I'm gonna tell you something Drake. You mark it down and
17 remember it. The sooner you stop playin' footsie with us
18 the better it's gonna be for you.
19 HAROLD: When do you bring out the rubber hose.
20 JOE: That went out with the story you're tryin' to hand us.
21 FRANK: Here's the picture.
22 SOUND: HAROLD TAKES THE MUGG SHOT
23 BEAT
24 HAROLD: Yeah....guy looks a lot like me. Didn't know better, you
25 might think we was twins.

1 JOE: If you didn't know better.
2 HAROLD: But we do.
3 JOE: Come off it Drake. We got you nailed and you know it.
4 You wanna sit there and dream up these fairy tales that's
5 up to you....but we gotta job to do. We know you'll
6 stand for this and so do you. Now why don't you save us
7 both a lot of trouble and cop out. 22/30
8 HAROLD: I'd like to do it sergeant. No lie I really would. But
9 I can't cop out to something I had nothin' to do with.
10 JOE: All right....let's start all over. Where'd you get the
11 check?
12 HAROLD: Guy gave it to me to pay off a poker debt.
13 JOE: You gonna tell us who the guy is?
14 HAROLD: No.
15 JOE: I think it's time to stop playin' games. Let's get down
16 to what we've got in the books. You claim you've never
17 been arrested. We got a package on you here that shows
18 three arrests and two convictions.
19 HAROLD: On a guy that looks like me.
20 JOE: Let's go down the hall and roll your prints. That'll
21 clean it up.
22 HAROLD: I'm for that....but go on...tell me the rest of the
23 fairy tale.
24 JOE: Alright...I'll lay it out for you in one syllable words.
25 HAROLD: That'll make it easy for you. 23/00

1 JOE: You broke into the offices of the D.M.V. down in San
2 Diego on February 28th.

3 HAROLD: Diego's nice in February....somebody's gonna write a song
4 about it sometime.

5 BEAT

6 JOE: You stole 26 pink slips ready for mailing to the owners.

7 HAROLD: You must mean somebody else.

8 JOE: That smile's gonna come off your face Drake when McGowan
9 walks in here.

10 HAROLD: I don't know who Mr. McGowan is....but I'll be happy to
11 meet him. Tell me...what'd I do after I stole the pink
12 slips?

13 JOE: You got the address of Louis Carder and then you went to
14 his home on Saturday night and stole his car.

15 FRANK: You drove it down to McGowan's used car lot and with the
16 pink slip, you sold it to him for 22 hundred dollars.

17 HAROLD: I was busy that night wasn't I.

18 JOE: What're you tryin' to prove with all this yak Drake?
19 You tryin' to make it rough on yourself?

20 HAROLD: I'm not tryin' to do anything. All I'm doin' is goin'
21 along with you guys.

22 FRANK: I'll check and see if McGowan's here.

23 JOE: Okay.

24 SOUND: FRANK EXITS ROOM. JOE TAKES CIGARETTE OUT OF POCKET AND
25 LIGHTS IT.

1 HAROLD: Can I have one of those?
2 JOE: Sure...here.
3 SOUND: HE GIVES HAROLD A CIGARETTE AND LIGHTS IT FOR HIM.
4 HAROLD: Y'know, I wouldn't have your job for all the money in
5 the world. 2/1/50
6 JOE: That right?
7 HAROLD: Yeah. Lousey way to live. Goin' around tryin' to get
8 people to cop out to things they didn't do.
9 JOE: That's the way it looks to you.
10 HAROLD: From any where I sit...it turns up that way.
11 JOE: Coupla things wrong.
12 HAROLD: What?
13 JOE: Your record for one thing.
14 HAROLD: If you can prove it's mine.
15 JOE: All we gotta do is walk down the hall and you've had
16 it. Soon as we check the prints we've turned the key.
17 HAROLD: Sounds good the way you tell it.
18 JOE: Gonna sound better the way the judge says it.
19 HAROLD: Who's writin' for you?
20 JOE: You were arrested in 1939 for auto theft. Served three
21 years. Arrested in 1945, suspicion grand theft auto.
22 Dismissed. 2/1/50
23 HAROLD: Y'see...they knew they had the wrong guy.
24 JOE: No body's told us. Another arrest in 1946 ... grand
25 theft auto. Served 4 years.

1 HAROLD: A case of mistaken identity.
2 JOE: That what happened both times?
3 HAROLD: Some people got very bad eyes. Now you take this fella
4 McGowan you're bringin' in here. Wouldn't be at all
5 surprised if he had bad eyes.
6 JOE: Y'know...one way to get yourself out of this is to tell
7 us where you got the check.
8 HAROLD: I don't know how to do it any more simple than I have.
9 I won it playin' poker. I'm not gonna tell you who I
10 won it from. Wouldn't do any good.
11 JOE: I don't know who'd been givin' you advice mister but
12 you aren't playin' it very smart.
13 HAROLD: Really?
14 JOE: The guy who dreamed up this routine probably spent the
15 next twenty years at "Q".
16 HAROLD: As a matter of fact he's still walkin' around.
17 JOE: Let's go down the hall and check your prints.
18 SOUND: DOOR OPENS AND FRANK ENTERS, WITH MCGOWAN.
19 FRANK: C'mon in Mr. McGowan.
20 SOUND: DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM.
21 JESSE: That's the man.
22 JOE: You sure about it?
23 JESSE: I'll swear to it in court.
24 HAROLD: What're you tryin' to do? Cause me a lotta trouble.
25 I haven't done anything and you know it. Now you come
26 in and say "that's the man". You know what that can
27 do to me?

1 JOE: Alright Drake. That's enough.
2 FRANK: Let's go Mr. McGowan.
3 SOUND: THEY MOVE TO THE DOOR. DOOR OPEN.
4 JESSE: I'll swear to it in court. That's the man who sold me
5 the car.
6 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE SHUTTING OFF MCGOWAN.
7 BEAT
8 JOE: That's it Drake.
9 HAROLD: Nothin' more huh?
10 JOE: Yeah. We roll your prints and check 'em against the
11 record. They got a couple of partials from San Diego.
12 If your's match up...and I think they will, you've had
13 it.
14 HAROLD: No way out huh?
15 JOE: Not that I can see.
16 HAROLD: What happens...now this is just a wild question...for
17 the sake of argument...but what happens if I cop out.
18 Plead guilty?
19 JOE: We got nothin' to say about that.
20 HAROLD: You can't help out huh?
21 JOE: No.
22 HAROLD: Save the taxpayers a lotta money. No trial.
23 JOE: I told you...we got nothin' to say about that.
24 HAROLD: Not much to gain by coppin' out then huh?
25 JOE: We got you made if you do or not. Maybe make it a
26 little easier if there's no jury trial. That's up to
27 the judge.

1 HAROLD: Nothin' you can do?
2 JOE: It'll go into the book that way.
3 HAROLD: Uh huh. (BEAT) You gotta nother cigarette?
4 JOE: Yeah. Here.
5 SOUND: HE LIGHTS THE CIGARETTE FOR HAROLD
6 HAROLD: EXHALES SLOWLY.
7 JOE: Let's go. Might as well get the prints and finish this
8 thing up.
9 SOUND: JOE STANDS UP
10 BEAT:
11 JOE: Let's go Drake.
12 HAROLD: No hurry. Lemme finish the cigarette.
13 JOE: C'mon Drake, we got other things to do.
14 HAROLD: So've I.
15 JOE: What.
16 HAROLD: One to ten years.
17 MUSIC: SIGNATURE
18 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The
19 names were changed to protect the innocent.
20 GIBNEY: On September 15th, trial was held in Department 98,
21 Superior Court of the State of California, in and for
22 the county of Los Angeles. In a moment, the results
23 of that trial.
24 FENN: And now, here is our star, Jack Webb.
25 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT

DRAGNET RADIO
SEPT. 22, 1953

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

1 WEBB: ~~This~~ is brief -- but I think very much to the point.
2 Chesterfield is the only cigarette that gives you proof
3 of low nicotine - highest quality. That's what I want
4 in my cigarette. That's what you should look for in
5 yours. Chesterfield.....regular or king-size.....
6 Best for you. Try them.

7

3/110

27/20

1 GIBNEY: Harold Alex Drake was tried and convicted of grand
2 theft auto counts, and was sentenced as prescribed
3 by law. Grand theft auto is punishable by imprisonment
4 in the state penitentiary for a period of from one to
5 ten years. A hold was placed on the suspect by San
6 Diego County for prosecution on the burglary charge.

27/38

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME 27/54

2 THEME: UNDER

3 GIBNEY: ~~You~~ have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic
4 cases from official files. Technical advice comes from
5 the office of Chief of Police, W. H. Parker, Los Angeles
6 Police Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack
7 Donohoe, Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard
8 tonight were: Ben Alexander, Herb Vigran, Jack Kruschen,
9 Herb Ellis. Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter
10 Schumann. Hal Gibney speaking. 28/18

11 MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

12 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on
13 your local NBC television station. Please check your
14 newspaper for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield
15 has brought you Dragnet transcribed from Los Angeles. 28/36

(FATIMA HITCHHIKE)

29/12
Music
to
29/47