



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD / 68 / RELEASE DATE / TUESDAY / FEBRUARY 23 / 1954

DIRECTOR: JACK WEEB / SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

WRITER: JOHN ROBERTSON / AGENCY: GUNNINGHAM-WALSH

MUSIC: WALTER SCHEMANN / COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON

SCRIPT: JEAN MILLS / TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

SOUND: EUD ANDERSON & WAYNE KENNEDY / SGT. MARLY WAIN: L.A. P.D.

ENGINEER: RAOUL MORSE / SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A. P.D.

ANNCR. #1: GEORGE JENNEMAN / CAPT. JACK DONOHUE: L.A. P.D.

ANNCR. #2: HAL GIBNEY, NEG.

CASE: THE BIG MEEB

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: T.B.A.

CAST AND SOUND: T.B.A.

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ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 6:00 - 6:30 PM - STUDIO J - BY T.R.

Agency Copy
Cut & Punch

"DRAGNET"
February 23, 1954

"THE BIG PIPE"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY.	JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH.	BEN ALEXANDER
OSCAR FITZGERALD	HARRY BARTELL
MINNA JOYCE	VA. GREGG
NORMAN SITKIN	HERB ELLIS
CARL NEELY.	VIC PERRIN

"DRAGNET" - Radio
"THE BIG PIPE"
N.B.C. #236 CHESTERFIELD #68
FOR BROADCAST: FEBRUARY 23, 1954

-1-

- 1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE
- 2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about
- 3 to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect
- 4 the innocent.
- 5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER
- 6 GIBNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by
- 7 Liggett and Myers, first major tobacco company to bring
- 8 you a complete line of quality cigarettes.
- 9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
- 10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
- 11 to Homicide detail. The body of an attractive woman has
- 12 been found in a downtown office building. She's been
- 13 *dy* beaten to death with a piece of lead pipe. Her killer
- 14 has escaped into the city. Your job find him.
- 15 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET - RADIO
February 23, 1954

FIRST COMMERCIAL 52

1 FENN: Today - friends, you hear these three words everywhere...
2 Chesterfields for me. The Chesterfield you smoke today
3 is the best cigarette ever made. Best for you - because
4 Chesterfield gives you proof of highest quality - low 115
5 nicotine...the taste you want....the mildness you want.
6 Chesterfield is best for you because it is tested and
7 approved by thirty years of scientific tobacco research. 130
8 Chesterfield is best for you because it has an established
9 good record with smokers....proven by test after test.
10 Yes, friends, the Chesterfield you smoke today is the best
11 cigarette ever made. For the taste you want-the mildness
12 you want - join the thousands now changing to Chesterfield.

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1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For the
3 next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los Angeles
4 Police Department, you will travel step by step on the ^{2/07}
5 side of the law through an actual case transcribed from
6 official police files. From beginning to end ... from
7 crime to punishment ... Dragnet is the story of your
8 police force in action.

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

10 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON HARD SURFACE. SLIGHT ECHO. NO

11 B.G.

12 JOE: It was Thursday, April 15th. It was warm in Los Angeles.
13 We were working the day watch out of Homicide Detail. My
14 partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Lohrman. My
15 name's Friday. We'd just left the murder room, and it was
16 7:40 A.M. when we got to Suite 718.....(SOUND: DOOR OPEN)
17 the building manager's office.

18 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE. STEPS INTO THE ROOM

19 MINNA: (CRYS QUIETLY AS THE DOOR OPENS) ^{2/30}

20 JOE: Miss Joyce?

21 MINNA: Yes. You men cops?

22 JOE: Yes, ma'am. We understand you're the one who found the
23 body.

24 MINNA: (BLOWING HER NOSE) That's right. I found her. Awful
25 thing. (SHE BLOWS HER NOSE AGAIN)

1 JOE: This is my partner, Frank Smith....my name's Friday.
2 Wonder if you'd tell us exactly what happened.

3 MINNA: Sure. Just about the most terrible thing ever happened
4 to me.

5 FRANK: Is there anything we can get you?

6 MINNA: No, thanks. Janie brought me some hot coffee.

7 JOE: Janie? 3/00

8 MINNA: Yeah....Janie Alquist. She works the ~~first~~ three floors.
9 She brought me some hot coffee. She was up here and they
10 let her bring it.

11 JOE: All right, Miss Joyce. If you'd tell us about it.

12 MINNA: Right from the beginning? You wanna hear all about the
13 whole thing?

14 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

15 MINNA: Well, I came on at 4. Just like always. Punched in and
16 came up to the 10th floor and started in. Got the
17 things out of the closet on the tenth.

18 JOE: Uh huh.

19 MINNA: Usually I start on the 7th, but now and then I like to do
20 it a little different, and I start on ten and work down. 3/00

21 FRANK: Yes, ma'am. What time was it when you found the body?

22 MINNA: Just a few minutes ago. I guess about 7. Right around
23 in there. I only had two more offices to do and I'd be
24 finished. I just had two more when I got there.

25 JOE: All right....would you go ahead, please?

1 MINNA: Well, I finished up with Mr. Farrell's office. He's in
2 716, right next door. He's always leavin' cigarettes on
3 the edge of his desk, and it burns the wood.
4 JOE: Uh huh.
5 MINNA: Sometimes the cigarettes fall off the desk and burn the
6 rug. I been gonna talk to the supervisor about it, but I
7 haven't yet.
8 JOE: Yeah.
9 MINNA: That's 'cause Mr. Farrell is so nice. He always remembers
10 Christmas. Last year he gave me a bottle of cologne.
11 JOE: ~~Yes, ma'am. If you'd tell us about finding the body.~~
12 MINNA: (BLOWS HER NOSE AGAIN) Well, I unlocked the door, and I
13 saw the light inside. I thought it was kinda funny 'cause
14 usual, it's dark.
15 FRANK: You mean in the office?
16 MINNA: Yeah. In where Mrs. Fitzgerald's desk is. It's usual
17 dark.
18 JOE: ~~Yes, ma'am.~~ *Also*
19 MINNA: I thought it was kinda funny, like I said, but then I
20 thought that maybe she was workin'. She does accounting,
21 y'know. Woman accountant. I thought she was working.
22 JOE: Uh huh.
23 MINNA: So I knocked. I didn't just want to go right in if she
24 was workin'. Y'know, disturb her. I knocked.
25 JOE: Yeah.
26 MINNA: But she didn't answer.
27 BEAT:

1 JOE: Go ahead.

2 MINNA: Well, I opened the door and went in. Right off I was
3 kinda sore about it. No excuse for a thing like that.
4 (STARTS TO CRY QUIETLY) ~~No~~ excuse at all. 4/30

5 FRANK: What'dya mean?

6 MINNA: Didn't you see the place? Didn't you look?

7 FRANK: Yes.

8 MINNA: Then you know what a mess it was. Papers all over the
9 floor....Ashtrays spilled. All that mess, and I'm
10 supposed to be through at 7:30. I'da never made it. Never
11 got through on time. (SHE BLOWS HER NOSE) That's when I
12 saw her. Behind the desk. (CRYS) Awful thing. There
13 she was. On the floor, dead, 5/80

14 JOE: There was no one else in the office?

15 MINNA: Nojust Mrs. Fitzgerald. She was on the floor behind
16 the desk.

17 FRANK: What'd you do then?

18 MINNA: I screamed. Loud. As loud as I could. I wanted somebody
19 to come up there right away. That was the first time I
20 ever saw anybody dead. Then I run out of the office and
21 went downstairs to get somebody to help. Just an awful
22 thing. (BLOWS HER NOSE) Poor Mrs. Fitzgerald. She was
23 so nice. All the time sayin' hello when she'd come in 5/30
24 early and I'd still be workin'. ~~I~~ think about it and I
25 just can't believe that it's true. I can't hardly believe
26 it.

27 JOE: Did you see anyone on the floor while you were working?

1 MINNA: Just Mrs. Fitzgerald.

2 JOE: No, ma'am. I mean was there anybody in the halls of the
3 building?

4 MINNA: No. Not that I saw. Wasn't anybody. I'd have seen
5 them if they was there, but they weren't.

~~6 JOE: Uh-huh. Well, thank you very much.~~

7 MINNA: That's all right. You know who did it yet?

8 JOE: No ma'am, not yet.

9 MINNA: I sure hope you catch 'em. Awful thing. I almost fainted
10 when I saw her. Her and the pipe they killed her with.

11 FRANK: Did you touch anything in the office?

12 MINNA: No, sir. As soon as I found out what'd happened, I
13 turned around and run out of the place. Right down to
14 the first floor to get somebody to help.

15 JOE: You didn't touch anything at all?

~~16 MINNA: No, sir. I just let out a scream and run.~~

17 JOE: All right, Mrs. Joyce. We'll contact you tomorrow about
18 a statement. Meantime, here's our card if you think of
19 anything we should know, we'd appreciate it if you'd call
20 us at this number.

21 MINNA: I sure will. Anything at all I think of, I'll call you,
22 (BLOWS HER NOSE) Can I go now? 6/07

23 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

24 MINNA: I gotta go home and take a hot bath. Calm my nerves.

25 SOUND: SHE GETS UP AND THE THREE OF THEM START TOWARD THE DOOR.

1 MINNA: Sure is gonna be a shock to her husband. 'Course not that
2 he'll mind too much.

3 JOE: Ma'am?

4 MINNA: Her husband. Y'know.....Mr. Fitzgerald.

5 BEAT:

6 JOE: Yes, ma'am.....what about him?

7 MINNA: Just that it isn't gonna bother that one too much.

8 FRANK: Why d'ya say that?

9 MINNA: I shouldn't have said anything. Not a word. I shouldn't
10 have told anything. I'd get fired sure.

11 JOE: If it's got anything to do with Mrs. Fitzgerald's death,
12 you'd better tell us. 6/30

13 MINNA: Well, if you'll promise not to tell the supervisor.

14 JOE: Go ahead.

15 MINNA: It gets dull just being in a big building by yourself.
16 All alone at night when there isn't anybody around.
17 Pretty dull.

18 JOE: Uh huh.

19 MINNA: Once in a while....not real often...but just once in a 7/0
20 while, I kinda read some of the letters the people throw
21 away. Y'know....in the wastebasket?

22 JOE: Yeah?

23 MINNA: They dont want 'em anymore so when it gets real dull, I
24 read 'em. And I've read some in Mrs. Fitzgerald's office.
25 From her husband, Mr. Fitzgerald.

26 JOE: Yes, ma'am?

1 MINNA: Seems like they been havin' some kinda big fight. Goin'
2 to court and all. I don't know what's it all about, but
3 they been fightin'. And in the letters, he tells how she
4 oughta leave him alone. I guess she's askin' for a lot
5 of alimony or somethin'. That's what it sounded like to
6 me. Some of the letters....the way he wrote to her...
7 mean. Used to threaten her. All the time.

8 JOE: You saw these letters where he threatened her? 7/30

9 MINNA: Yeah. ~~One~~....I guess it was about a week ago...he said in
10 it that if she tried to railroad the thing through....
11 that's what he said...railroad the thing through, he'd
12 come up here and....

13 BEAT

14 JOE: Yeah. Go ahead.

15 MINNA: That's all there is. I couldn't find the other piece of
16 the letter where he said what he was gonna do. See, she
17 tore up the letters after she read 'em.

18 JOE: All right, Mrs. Joyce. Thank you very much.

19 MINNA: I hope I helped.

20 FRANK: You certainly have.

21 SOUND: THE DOOR OPENS AND THEY WALK OUT INTO THE HALL

22 MINNA: Sure wish I could found that other piece of the letter.

23 No way of knowin' what it said. 8/80

24 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

25 MINNA: You suppose he really meant it?

26 JOE: I dunno. We'll ask him.

(END SCENE 1)

1 JOE: By the time Frank and I had arrived at the scene, the
2 crew from the Crime Lab had been called ~~and had gotten to~~
3 ~~the building. Under our direction,~~ photographs of the
4 entire room had been taken and fingerprints had been
5 lifted from the edges of the desk, from the top of a lamp
6 and from the moulding of the door. The murder weapon,
7 a 15-inch section of heavy lead pipe was booked for
8 evidence. There was nothing we could tell from the pipe
9 itself, other than the fact that it was the murder
10 instrument. It was a ~~plain~~ piece of 3-quarter ince pipe. 8/30
11 One end was wrapped in a heavy brown paper, the other was
12 bloodstained. Because of the appearance of the office,
13 it looked as if robbery was the motive for the crime.
14 However, on examination of the victim's personal effects,
15 we found that two large diamond rings were still on her
16 fingers. In her purse, we found cash in the amount of
17 2 hundred and 26 dollars. On the desk itself, we found
18 a woman's wrist watch set with 12 diamonds. The fact
19 that none of this had been removed, apparently ruled out
20 robbery as the motive. The other employees of the
21 building were questioned, but they were ~~unable~~ to shed 9/10
22 any light on a possible suspect. None of them had seen
23 any unauthorized persons in the place after closing
24 hours. People on the street in the immediate vicinity
25 were questioned, and the only lead we were able to come
26 up with was that at approximately 7:02 A.M. a newsboy
27 had seen a short, stocky man walk from the office
28 building entrance.

(MORE)

1 JOE: Other than the brief description of the man's build, the
(Cont) witness was unable to tell us anything. An immediate
2 broadcast was gotten out on what information we had.
3 From a telephone book in the victim's desk, we got an
4 address for her husband, Oscar Fitzgerald. It was a men's
5 club located in downtown Los Angeles. Frank and I drove
6 over to talk to him. 9/3
7
8 OSCAR: C'mon in.
9 JOE: Thanks.
10 FRANK: Thank you.
11 SOUND: THEY WALK INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR CLOSSES BEHIND THEM.
12 OSCAR: Sit down. I'll call for some coffee. You fellas want
13 some?
14 JOE: No, thanks.
15 FRANK: No.
16 SOUND: OSCAR WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP
17 OSCAR: (FROM THE PHONE) You don't mind if I have some?
18 JOE: No, go ahead.
19 OSCAR: (INTO PHONE) Room service, please. (TO JOE) Kinda
20 early for the cops to come callin', isn't it?
21 JOE: Yeah....I guess so.
22 OSCAR: (INTO PHONE OVER LAST LINE) This is Mr. Fitzgerald....
23 Room 417. Would you please send up a pot of coffee.
24 That's right. Oh...and send a large glass of orange
25 juice, too, huh? Yeah...and make sure it's cold....417...
26 Right.
27 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK ON MIKE

1 OSCAR: (FADING IN) One thing I can't go is warm orange juice.
2 You like a cigarette?
3 JOE: Thanks.
4 SOUND: JOE TAKES A CIGARETTE FROM A PACK AND THE LIGHT BUSINESS
5 IS UNDER THE FOLLOWING
6 OSCAR: Now...what's this all about? What d'ya want to see me for?
7 for?
8 JOE: When's the last time you saw your wife?
9 OSCAR: Ada? I guess it was a couple of weeks ago. Why?
10 FRANK: Can you narrow that down to a day?
11 OSCAR: Why? Any special reason for me to?
12 JOE: We'd like to hear it.
13 OSCAR: Let's see...I guess it was around March 30th. I can
14 check it if it's important.
15 FRANK: Where'd you see her?
16 OSCAR: At my lawyers. We had a conference to try and work out
17 the divorce and settlement.
18 JOE: What line of work are you in, Mr. Fitzgerald?
19 BEAT ^{10/30}
20 OSCAR: I think you'd better tell me what this is all about
21 before I answer any more questions. If this is some
22 sort of a trick Ada's tryin', you tell her it won't work
23 and she can get off my back.
24 JOE: It's no trick. I think it might be better if you'd
25 cooperate with us and answer the questions.
26 OSCAR: All right. But I'm gonna tell you goin' in that if you
27 try to pull a fast one, I'm gonna deny anything I tell
28 you now.

1 JOE: You tell us the truth and you won't have any trouble.
2 Now where do you work?
3 OSCAR: Right now, I'm between.
4 JOE: What's that mean?
5 OSCAR: I'm an actor. Right now, I haven't got an assignment.
6 JOE: Where'd you work last?
7 OSCAR: Picture studio. Until you tell me what this is for,
8 I'm not going to give you any names. // \ 20
9 JOE: Can you give us your movements for the past few days?
10 OSCAR: Starting when?
11 JOE: Try the day before yesterday.
12 OSCAR: Okay, I got up and went out to see my agent. Hung
13 around the office for a couple of hours and then had
14 lunch on the strip. After that, I came downtown and saw
15 a movie. I came home and took a shower and then kept a
16 dinner engagement.
17 JOE: You prove that?
18 OSCAR: If I have to, yeah. But you're gettin' no names until I
19 know what's goin on.
20 JOE: All right. How 'bout yesterday? What'd you do then?
21 OSCAR: Got up and went out to my agents. He told me he had a
22 part on the fire. We went out on an interview. I was
23 at the studio until about 4:30 then we went back to my
24 agents office and we had a couple of drinks. After that
25 I came back here. Didn't feel too good so I went to bed.
26 JOE: The man at the desk would be able to verify that?
27 OSCAR: Yeah. Just ask him.

1 FRANK: Fitzgerald, how'd you get along with your wife?
2 OSCAR: It's not any of your business, but I'll tell you. It
3 isn't any secret. I hated everything about her.
4 JOE: You ever have any fights with her?
5 OSCAR: Not more than 5 a week for the past four years.
6 JOE: You ever hit her?
7 OSCAR: Y'know, people win money for answerin' questions on quiz
8 shows. What happens if I answer the big one?
9 JOE: Depends on how you answer it. We understand you wrote
10 your wife some threatening letters. That right? 12/100
11 OSCAR: I guess you could call them that, yeah. I told her to
12 get off my back. Leave me alone. Told her if she
13 didn't she was building more trouble than she could handle
14 JOE: You ever threaten her life?
15 OSCAR: No. I'm not gonna try to tell you that there weren't
16 times when I could have killed Ada. There were a lot
17 of 'em. But it wasn't worth it. Not for her.
18 FRANK: What'd you argue about mostly?
19 OSCAR: The divorce. I've been tryin' to get one for the last
20 four years. Ada wouldn't see it. Finally when I did talk
21 her into it, the settlement she wanted was way out of
22 line. I wouldn't go for it. Told her so. What's all
23 this about the fights and the threatening anyway?
24 Something happen to Ada. That it? 12/30
25 JOE: Yes sir.
26 OSCAR: She been hurt?
27 JOE: It's more serious than that.

1 OSCAR: She dead?

2 JOE: Yes.

3 BEAT

4 OSCAR: And you think I did it?

5 JOE: We're checkin' everybody that knew her.

6 OSCAR: Okay. I told you that there were times when I could
7 have...when I maybe wanted to.....but I wouldn't go to
8 jail for her. Not ever. You gotta find another boy.
9 When you do, I'll go his lawyer fee.

10 JOE: Yeah.

11 OSCAR: How they do it?

12 JOE: Piece of lead pipe.

13 OSCAR: Bad?

14 JOE: Yeah.

15 OSCAR: Rough way to go.

16 JOE: Is there an easy way?

17 (END SCENE 2)

1 JOE: We made a preliminary search of the room but found
2 nothing that would tie the victim's husband, Oscar
3 Fitzgerald with the crime. We talked to the desk clerk
4 and he verified the man's story that he had been in his
5 apartment the evening of the killing. Fitzgerald made
6 arrangements with us to attend the coronors inquest and
7 Frank and I went back to the city hall. We checked with
8 the crime lab on their investigation. Lt. Lee Jones told
9 us that they had been able to lift several partial
10 fingerprints from the murder weapon but that they were
11 impossible to classify. He went on to say that the other
12 prints that had been found at the scene were unusable 13/30
13 as evidence since it would be difficult to get enough
14 points for identification. The other physical evidence
15 taken from the office was of little use. A check had
16 been made of the piece of pipe, but it was found to be of
17 a common type and impossible to trace. Microphotographs
18 had been made of the serrated edges and these had been
19 booked as evidence. We asked the staats office to make
20 a run on the M.O. of the crime and they told us that they
21 would start through their files immediately. For the
22 next two days, Frank and I talked to all of the friends
23 and relatives of the victim, attempting to find a motive
24 for the crime.

1 JOE: From what we had to work on, the only plausible reason
(CONT) 2 for the killing, was either revenge, or jealousy. None
3 of Mrs. Fitzgerald's friends or business acquaintances
4 were able to point out anyone with a strong enough reason
5 to kill the woman. Monday, April 19th, Frank and I got
6 back to the office after interviewing one of the victim's
7 business competitors.

8 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR
9 CLOSES BEHIND THEM.

10 FRANK: Another one that didn't go anyplace.

11 JOE: Seems like that's all we've been drawin' on this one.

12 FRANK: Yeah, I'll check the book.

13 JOE: Anything come in from the staats office yet?

14 FRANK: (FADING OFF) No. They said they'd have the rest of the
15 run for us this afternoon.

16 JOE: First bunch didn't turn anything.

17 SOUND: PHONE RING.

18 JOE: I'll get ~~it~~. *14/60*

19 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE PHONE...PUNCHES THE BUTTON AND LIFTS THE
20 RECEIVER

21 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Homicide, Friday. Yeah, Jack. Yeah.
22 Anything on him? Uh huh. Sure. We're no place now...
23 anything has got to be ahead for us. Right. Y'wanna
24 give me the address. Yeah. Okay, we'll check it. Good.
25 Thanks again. G'bye.

26 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

1 JOE: Jack McCreadie...says he talked to one of his informants
2 this morning. Guy came up with a couple of good things.
3 SOUND: FRANK FADES ON
4 FRANK: Yeah.
5 JOE: One of 'em's about a guy in the Olympia Bar at 4th and
6 Kohler. Fella's pretty drunk been doin' a lot of talkin'.
7 FRANK: Somethin' for us? 15100
8 JOE: Yeah. He's braggin' about beating a woman to death with a
9 piece of pipe.
10 (END SCENE 3)
11 JOE: 4:40 P.M. we left the office and drove over to the corner
12 of 4th and Kohler, the Olympia Bar. When we walked in
13 there were only a few customers in the place. At the far
14 end of the bar, a short stocky man was sitting alone. In
15 front of him was an empty shot glass and a bottle of beer.
16 He appeared to be pretty drunk and as we entered, he was
17 talking to the other people seated at the bar.
18 SOUND: JUKE BOX B.G. JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS.
19 CARL: (FADING IN AS JOE AND FRANK WALK TOWARD HIM) Any of you
20 guys that don't believe it...you just come outside with
21 me. I'll show you. Show you all. Everyone of ya. (UP
22 EVEN MORE) Bartender.. I gotta empty glass...let's do
23 somethin' about it huh. I need a drink.
24 SOUND: THE STEPS STOP AS JOE AND FRANK GET TO THE STOOL WHERE CARL
IS SITTING.

1 JOE: I think you've had about enough, huh?
2 CARL: What?
3 JOE: You've had enough to drink.
4 CARL: Who are you to tell me that? Huh...who're you to come in
5 here and tell me what to do. What'sa matter, you think
6 you're cops or somethin'. Huh? That what you think?
7 JOE: You called it. C'mon...we wanna talk to you.
8 CARL: Y'mean you are cops?
9 JOE: That's right. 16100
10 CARL: Well, listen...you better get out of here and do it fast
11 if you know what's good for you. You better.
12 JOE: Frank.
13 FRANK: Yeah.
14 SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS MOVE IN TO TAKE CARL OUT OF THE PLACE.
15 CARL: (AS HE IS BEING SHOVED) Take your hands off me. You guys
16 don't hear good do you? You come messin' around with me
17 and you're gonna find out. You'll find out good. I'll
18 give you the same thing I gave her. The same thing.
19 JOE: Hold it Frank. (TO CARL) All right, mister, who're you
20 talkin' about?
21 CARL: I'll tell you who. I'll tell you good. Then you'll
22 know to leave me alone if you know what's good for you. 11/30
23 I'm talkin' about that Ada Fitzgerald...that's who. Ada.
24 You go messin' with me and you'll get what she got. I'm
25 a pretty rough fella y'know. Pretty rough.
26 JOE: That right?

1 CARL: You bet ya. You're not dealin' with a kid, y'know.

2 JOE: That makes it even then doesn't it?

3 CARL: Huh?

4 JOE: You're not dealin' with a woman.

5 (END SCENE 4)

6 JOE: We took the suspect, who identified himself as Carl Neely
7 down to the Homicide Squadroom. He was handcuffed to a
8 chair and we ran his name through the record bureau. He
9 had a long string of arrests for various charges including
10 ^{17/00} attempted robbery, assault and assault with intent to do
11 great bodily harm. He's never been convicted on a felony
12 but his record showed that he'd served two terms in the
13 county jail for drunk charges, and creating a public ^{17/15}
14 nuisance. While we were checking his record, the suspect
15 passed out in an alcoholic stupor in the Squadroom. We
16 contacted Sergeant Jack McCreddie and Officer Danny
17 Galindo and asked them to make a search of the suspects
18 residence. In going over the place, they'd found a
19 bloodstained shirt and coat. The garments were packed in
20 a cardboard box that had been hidden under the kitchen
21 sink. They were brought downtown to us along with an
22 empty envelope found in the apartment. (MORE)

17/30

1 JOE: It had been sent to the suspect, Neely and the return
(CONT) address on the back indicated that the letter had been
2 sent by the victim's husband, Oscar Fitzgerald. We
3 waited for the suspect to come to enough for us to
4 question him. Frank went out and brought back some hot
5 coffee. We tried to get Neely to drink some of it.
6

7 8:40 P.M.

8 SOUND: SLIGHT SQUADROOM B.G. NOT TOO HEAVY.

9 CARL: (COUGHS)

10 FRANK: C'mon...try some more.

11 CARL: (WE HEAR HIS TRY TO DRINK THE COFFEE. HE COUGHS AGAIN.)

12 Leave me alone. I just want to sleep. Go away.

~~13 JOE: C'mon Neely...snap out of it. Drink the coffee.~~

~~14 CARL: (COMING OUT OF IT A LITTLE) What?~~

~~15 JOE: Drink the coffee Neely.~~

~~16 CARL: I don't want any. I wanna go to sleep. Leave me alone,
17 will you. Just go away and leave me alone. You don't
18 get out of here and there's gonna be trouble.~~

~~19 JOE: You got enough of it now. Straighten up. C'mon...sit
20 up straight. Get your head up here. Now drink this.~~

~~21 SOUND: WE HEAR CARL DRINK SOME OF THE COFFEE.~~

~~22 CARL: (HE COUGHS) That stuff's hot.~~

~~23 JOE: Yeah...try some more.~~

~~24 CARL: TAKES ANOTHER DRINK OF THE COFFEE.~~

~~25 BEAT~~

1 CARL: You gotta cigarette?

2 JOE: Yeah. Have some more of that first.

3 CARL: (TAKES A BELT OF THE COFFEE.) Wild one huh?

4 JOE: Here.

5 SOUND: JOE GIVES CARL A PACKAGE OF CIGARETTES. LIGHT BUSINESS

6 UNDER.

7 CARL: (EXHALING) You're cops, huh? 18/00

8 JOE: You been the route before.

9 CARL: Yeah. What am I here for?

10 JOE: We wanna talk to you about the Fitzgerald woman.

11 CARL: Ada? I was spoutin' off again huh?

12 JOE: You said you'd killed her.

13 CARL: Figures. (TAKES A DRINK OF THE COFFEE) Every time I get
14 tanked up, I've always killed somebody. Never fails.

15 JOE: Tell us about the Fitzgerald woman.

16 CARL: Nothin' to tell. I read about it in the papers. This
17 morning, I started drinkin. It always happens when I've
18 been beltin' the booze. I right away tell people I've
19 killed somebody. 18/00

20 JOE: (TAKING THE SHIRT AND COAT) These clothes belong to you?

21 CARL: Lemme see. (HE LOOKS AT THEM) I dunno. Where'd you
22 get 'em.

23 JOE: Are they yours?

24 CARL: I dunno.

25 FRANK: You got that many clothes?

26 CARL: Huh?

1 FRANK: I can remember all of the clothes I've got. No trouble at
2 all.

3 CARL: Maybe you don't dress as good as me.

4 JOE: Come off it Neely. You're in trouble. Big trouble. You
5 sat in a bar this morning and told everybody how you'd
6 beaten a woman to death. We find these clothes in your
7 apartment. Blood stains all over 'em. Here's another
8 thing...this envelope...Where'd you get this?

9 SOUND: CARL LOOKS AT THE ENVELOPE.

10 CARL: Through the mail. Like it says. See the stamp.

11 JOE: You know Oscar Fitzgerald? 19/00

12 CARL: I don't get mail from strangers. Sure I know him. It a
13 crime to get a letter now?

14 JOE: What was in the envelope?

15 CARL: I don't think that's none of your business.

16 JOE: We do. What kind of dealings have you got with Oscar
17 Fitzgerald?

18 CARL: I used to work for him.

19 FRANK: Doin' what?

20 CARL: I took care of the place when him and Ada were married.
21 Sort of a general handy man.

22 JOE: When'd you see him last?

23 CARL: I dunno...maybe a couple of months ago. Around there.
24 Couple three months.

25 FRANK: What'd he find so important that he wrote you about?

26 CARL: He loaned me some money. Sent me a check.

1 FRANK: It was a loan, huh?
2 CARL: Yeah.
3 FRANK: You sign any sort of note for the money? 19/30
4 CARL: I endorsed the check. It said on it, it was a loan.
5 What're you guys tryin' to prove anyway. You tryin' to
6 tie me in with Ada's killing.
7 JOE: You look good.
8 CARL: You're off your rocker. I had nothin' to do with it.
9 Sure you got me for drunk that's all.
10 FRANK: You're record makes you look good for it.
11 JOE: The clothes we found in your apartment don't help you.
12 FRANK: You sure Oscar Fitzgerald didn't pay you to kill his wife?
13 JOE: Be a lot better if you told us the truth, Neely.
14 CARL: I'm tellin' you the truth. It's right in front of you.
15 All you gotta do is open your eyes. It's there.
16 JOE: Where'd the blood stains come from?
17 CARL: They're mine.
18 JOE: Tell us.
19 CARL: I got in a fight with another fella. 20/100
20 FRANK: Where?
21 CARL: Bar down on 7th.
22 JOE: When?
23 CARL: Wednesday.
24 JOE: Last week?
25 CARL: Yeah. Last Wednesday.
26 JOE: What time'd you have this fight?

- 1 CARL: Closin' time.
- 2 FRANK: That'd make it about two then?
- 3 CARL: That's when the bars close.
- 4 JOE: Where'd you go after you had the fight?
- 5 CARL: Went up to a friends house and had a couple more drinks.
- 6 FRANK: Who's the friend?
- 7 CARL: You don't know him. He's got no record.
- 8 JOE: What's his name?
- 9 CARL: I don't want him dragged into anything.
- 10 JOE: What's his name?
- 11 CARL: Jackie Meadows.
- 12 FRANK: Lemme see your hands, Neely?
- 13 CARL: Sure.
- 14 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO NEELY AND STOPS
- 15 FRANK: You got some pretty bad bruises there. Y'must have hit somethin' pretty hard.
- 16 CARL: The fight I told you about....That's where those came from.
- 17 JOE: Carl tell us what you did after you left the bar.
- 18 CARL: I told you, I went up to Jackie's. Had a couple of drinks.
- 19 JOE: What time'd you get there?
- 20 CARL: Round 3.....maybe 3:10.
- 21 FRANK: What time'd you leave?
- 22 CARL: 'Bout 5.
- 23 JOE: Where'd you go?
- 24 CARL: I don't remember too good. I was pretty boozed up.

20/30

1 JOE: Where d'ya think you went?
2 CARL: Jackie was worried about me bein' cut up from the fight.
3 He wanted me to see a doctor.
4 JOE: Yeah.
5 CARL: He drove me down to Georgia Street Recieving Hospital.
6 JOE: Uh huh.
7 CARL: I was there until 9:30 Thursday morning ✓
8 (END SCENE 5) 2/102
9 (END ACT 1)
10 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your
11 police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET - RADIO
February 23, 1954

SECOND COMMERCIAL 2/1/58

1 FENN: World altitude records.....world speed records....All
2 part of Bill Bridgeman's job as a supersonic test pilot
3 for Douglas Aircraft. You read about Bill in Time
4 magazine...now, let's meet one of the world's fastest
5 humans....and Jacqueline Hazzard - who is collaborating
6 with Bill on his new book - Test Pilot. They smoke
7 America's most popular two way cigarette - Chesterfield. 2/1/55
8 BILL: I smoke the king-size. After hearing what the Chesterfield
9 people have been saying about them, I thought I should
10 try them. I'm convinced they're best for me.
11 JACQ: It's Chesterfields for me, too.....but I like the regular
12 size. Either way, they're every thing Bill says. And
13 they're really mild. 2/1/55
14 BILL: You try Chesterfields. I think you'll find they're best
15 for you.
16 FENN: Yes, for the taste you want - the mildness you want -
17 join the thousands now changing to Chesterfield. 2/1/55

1 JOE: A call was put through to Dr. Hall at Georgia Street
2 Receiving Hospital asking if a patient was given
3 emergency treatment on the morning of Thursday, April
4 15th. A search of the hospital records, verified the
5 story told us by the suspect, Carl Neely. We checked
6 through our crime reports and found that a miscellaneous
7 injury report had been made. From the coronors report,
8 we knew that the victim had been murdered between the
9 hours of 5 A.M. and 7 A.M. on that morning. We got in
10 touch with Neely's friend, Jackie Meadows and he also
11 verified the suspects story. We had a suspect who had a
12 record for the same type of crime, who matched the
13 physical description we'd gotten at the scene, and
14 admitted he knew the victim, but from reliable people,
15 we knew that it would have been impossible for him to
16 have killed Ada Fitzgerald. He was booked in at the
17 main jail on a charge of being drunk in a public place,
18 and Frank and I started checking out the remainder of the
19 list the staats office had given us. Originally there had
20 been 12 names on the list. We talked to 10 of them.
21 The eleventh, a Norman Sitkin had a record of burglary,
22 attempted robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.
23 He'd been arrested and brought to trial on a charge of
24 murder three years previously but had been acquitted.
25 The circumstances surrounding his arrest, were the same as
26 in the Fitzgerald case.

(MORE)

1 JOE
(CONT)

2 The main reason he'd been released, a free man was the
3 testimony of his mother who'd sworn that Sitkin had been
4 home with her on the night of the killing. When we went
5 out to his home, we found that he wasn't home. We talked
6 to his mother and she told us that He'd been in San
7 Diego for the past ~~three~~ days. Under interrogation, we 2:13
8 established the fact that on the night of the Fitzgerald
9 killing, Sitkin hadn't been at home but that he had been
10 in Los Angeles. We obtained a photograph of him from his
11 mother and the address of the hotel where he was staying
12 in Los Angeles. We put in a call to the San Diego
13 Authorities and talked to Lt. Mort Gear in the Homicide
14 Detail. We gave him the complete background on the
15 case and all other information we had on this suspect,
16 including a description of Sitkin. We asked that he be
17 detained if he was still in the southern city. We gave
18 him the addresses of the places Sitkin might be found.
19 Mean time, we contacted the hotel where he was staying in
20 Los Angeles, and a 24 hour stakeout was placed on the
21 location. Wednesday, April 21, Frank and I got back from
22 lunch.

22 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. STEPS INTO THE ROOM

23 FRANK: Better put in a call to Mort, huh? See if they got
24 anything on Sitkin?

25 JOE: Yeah. You wanna do it?

26 FRANK: Right.

27 SOUND: FRANK WALKS TO THE PHONE AND DIALS 2504. BEAT

1 FRANK: (INTO THE PHONE) This is Frank Smith...robbery....I'd
2 like to put in a call to San Diego P.D. Homicide Bureau.
3 Lieutenant Mort Geer. It's a homicide... Yeah
4 D.R. 132549 ... Yeah, that's the one, Uh huh...that's
5 3268? Oh...58. Right....Sam, Okay....thanks.

6 SOUND: FRANK HANGS UP THE PHONE, AND THEN PICKS IT UP AGAIN AND
7 DIALS 20. (BEAT). UNDER ABOVE ACTION, THE PHONE RINGS.
8 JOE WALKS TO THE PHONE AND LIFTS THE RECIEVER, PUNCHES
9 THE BUTTON.

10 FRANK: I'm on that one Joe.

11 JOE: Oh....

12 SOUND: JOE PUNCHES ANOTHER BUTTON

13 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Homicide....Friday. Yes sir. No that's
14 right. Uh huh. When was that? Yes sir. Right away.

15 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

16 JOE: Cancel the call Frank.

17 FRANK: What've you got?

18 JOE: Sitkin just walked into his hotel.

19 (END SCENE 6)

20 JOE: Frank and I left the office immediately and drove to
21 Sitkin's hotel. We talked to the officers an stakeout and
22 they told us that the suspect had just returned. He
23 explained that he'd given Sitkin no reason to suspect
24 that anything was wrong and that he'd gone directly to his
25 room. Frank and I got in the elevator and went up to the
26 fourth floor.

27 SOUND: ELEVATOR DOORS CLOSE BEHIND JOE AND FRANK. STEPS ON CARPET,

1 FRANK: Should be down this way, huh?
2 JOE: Yeah.
3 SOUND: STEPS HOLD FOR A WHILE THEN STOP. DOOR KNOCK.
4 (BEAT)
5 NORMAN: (OFF MIKE, BEHIND THE DOOR) Yeah?
6 SOUND: JOE KNOCKS ON THE DOOR AGAIN.
7 NORMAN: (OFF) Just a minute.
8 SOUND: WE HEAR NORMAN APPROACH THE DOOR AND OPEN IT.
9 NORMAN: Yeah. What'd'ya want?
10 JOE: You Norman Sitkin?
11 NORMAN: Yeah. Who're you?
12 JOE: Police officers.
13 SOUND: NORMAN TRIES TO SLAM THE DOOR BUT JOE AND FRANK PUSH THEIR
14 WAY IN.
15 NORMAN: You got no right to do this. Lemme see your warrent.
16 JOE: Get your coat, Sitkin. We want to talk to you.
17 NORMAN: What for? What have you got to talk to me about. I got
18 nothin' to say.
19 JOE: Get your coat.
20 NORMAN: What's the charge? What're you takin' me in for?
21 JOE: Supicion of murder.
22 NORMAN: You're kidding?
23 JOE: You keep thinkin' that.
24 NORMAN: (TO FRANK) You better tell your friend here to be careful
25 who he plays jokes on. One of these days he's gonna pick
26 somebody who hasn't got a sense of humor and he's gonna
27 land in a lot of trouble.

1 FRANK: He's not kidding.
2 (BEAT)
3 NORMAN: You mean this is for real.
4 JOE: C'mon..let's go.
5 NORMAN: Wait a minute. I know what this is all about.
6 JOE: That right?
7 NORMAN: Sure. You figure I had something to do with that woman
8 who was beaten to death downtown. Fitzgerald...I think
9 that's that name. Isn't that what you think?
10 JOE: You seem to know about it.
11 NORMAN: Well, you're way off on this one. I got an alibi that
12 you can't break. I can see you guys not...figurin that
13 because I stood this kinda beef once before, you can make
14 it stick this time. Well, it won't work cop. None of it
15 fits together. I can prove where I was that night.
16 Every minute.
17 JOE: Yeah?
18 NORMAN: That's right. You check at my house. Happens that I was
19 with my mother. Just like the other time. All night I
20 was home.
21 JOE: You gonna stand on that?
22 NORMAN: There isn't any other way.
23 JOE: That's gonna make it a lot easier then.
24 NORMAN: What's that supposed to mean?
25 JOE: We've talked to your mother. She says you weren't home
26 that night.

1 NORMAN: She's wrong.. You let me talk to her. She'll tell you.
2 You just let me talk to her.
3 JOE: She's sure you weren't there. She's willing to testify to
4 to it.
BEAT
5 NORMAN: Get outta my way.
6 SOUND: NORMAN MAKES A BREAK FOR IT. HE AND JOE HAVE BRIEF
7 FIGHT AND JOE DECKS NORMAN.
BEAT:
8 JOE: (BREATHING HEAVY) Wanna get the cuffs? 26130
9 FRANK: Yeah.
10 SOUND: FRANK MOVES IN AND WE HEAR THE CUFFS SNAP CLOSED.
11 FRANK: Funny isn't it?
12 JOE: What's that?
13 FRANK: Looks like he might have been good for the first killing.
14 The one he was acquitted on. His mother might have lied
15 on the stand.
16 JOE: Not gonna make a lot of difference.
17 FRANK: Huh?
18 ~~JOE: Either way, he's gonna pick up the tab.~~
19 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

- 1 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names
2 were changed to protect the innocent. 271
- 3 GIBNEY: On August 17th, trial was held in Department 97, Superior
4 Court of the State of California, in and for the County
5 of Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that trial.
- 6 FENN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.
- 7 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT

DRAGNET-RADIO -

~~Feb. 23, 1954~~ Feb. 23, 1954

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

- 1 FENNEMAN: Now, here is our star - Jack Webb.
- 2 WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. Earlier, George Fenneman
- 3 told you exactly why the Chesterfield you smoke today
- 4 is the best cigarette ever made And best for
- 5 you. The rest is up to you. Get a carton or two for
- 6 yourself. Smoke them and you'll say - as we do - it's
- 7 Chesterfields for me.

TRIAL PAGE

1 CIBNEY: Norman Edward Sitkin was tried and convicted for
2 murder in the first degree. On recommendation of the
3 jury, he recieved the maximum penalty and on July 19,
4 he was executed in the lethal gas chamber at the state
5 penitentiary, San Quentin, California.

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

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, _____

9

10 Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter Schumann.

11 Hal Gibney speaking.

12 MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

13 FENN: Watch an entirely different Dragnet case history each
14 week on your local NBC Television station. Please check
15 your newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT)

16 Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from
17 Los Angeles.

18 (FATIMA HITCH HIKE)

L & M FILTER--(HITCH-HIKE)
DRAGNET ~~2/23/54~~ 28/76

2/23/54

ANNCR:

Filter tip smokers ... This is it!

L & M Filters ... The one filter tip cigarette with plenty of good taste - much more flavor - much less nicotine ... And effective filtration.

Only the L & M Filter contains the miracle product - alpha cellulose - absolutely pure - non-mineral - harmless to health.

Yes, this is it! As Helen Hayes puts it ...

L & M Filters are just what the doctor ordered

Buy L & M Filters ... the light and mild smoke!

2/11/54



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #69 NBC #237 RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1954

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB

WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON

MUSIC: WALTER SCHUMANN

SCRIPT: JEAN MILLES

SOUND: BUD TOLIERSON &
WAYNE KENWORTHY

ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY

ANNCR. #1: GEORGE FENNEMAN

ANNCR. #2: HAL GIBNEY, NBC

CASE: "THE BIG T.V."

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

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SCORING: MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1954

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ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 6:00 - 6:30 PM -
STUDIO J7 - BY T.R.

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR: PETE
PETERSON

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

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

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

CAPT. JACK DONOHUE: L.A.P.D.

*Agency
Cut & Glued*