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WOR

THE SHADOW

"THE RED ROOM"

(STANDARD OPENING)

1 (MUSIC: "SPINNING WHEEL" ... FADE UNDER:)
2 SHADOW: Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?
3 The SHADOW knows.
4 (LAUGHS)
5 (MUSIC UP...SEGUE BRIGHT THEME)
6 ANNR: Once again your neighborhood 'blue coal' dealer
7 brings you the thrilling adventures of the SHADOW....
8 the hard and relentless fight of one man against
9 the forces of evil. Every week at this time we bring
10 you a new episode in this fight for the triumph of
11 justice. These dramatizations are designed to
12 demonstrate forcibly to old and young alike that
13 crime does not pay!
14 (MUSIC UP...SEGUE INTO NEUTRAL BACKGROUND)

(OPENING COMMERCIAL)

1 ANN: Today it is more important than ever before that all
2 Americans work together -- that we all renounce selfish
3 motives and cooperate to the fullest possible extent.
4 For example, in the matter of heating our homes this
5 winter, cooperation and the willingness to share with
6 others must be uppermost in our minds. Today, later
7 in this program, Mr. Gordon C. Cooke, President of
8 D. L. & W. Coal Company, producers of 'blue coal',
9 will deliver an important message. Please listen
10 carefully.

(INTRODUCTION BEFORE START OF SHADOW STORY)

1 ANN: The SHADOW, mysterious character who aids the forces
2 of law and order, is, in reality, Lamont Cranston,
3 wealthy young man-about-town. Several years ago, in
4 the Orient, Cranston learned a strange and mysterious
5 secret...the secret of hypnotic power to cloud men's
6 minds so they cannot see him. Cranston's friend and
7 companion the lovely Margot Lane, is the only person
8 who know to whom the voice of the invisible SHADOW
9 belongs. Today's drama..."The Red Room".

1 (MUSIC UP AND THEN UNDER)
2 SHADOW: I have known many men who have killed without mercy,
3 cruelly and savagely. But of them all, there was none
4 so mad with greed and blood...as the human devil
5 whose diseased brain hatched...The Red Room!
6 (MUSIC UP FOR MOMENT THEN FADE OUT. DOOR OPENS AND
7 CLOSES)
8 NIXIE: Well, Chief...here's the guy you wanted snatched!
9 MIKE: Yeah. It was easy. Me and Nixie waited outside the
10 bank, like you said. He walked right into our hands!
11 NORCROSS: Good work, boys. Excellent. (OILY UNCTIOUS) Ah!
12 Good Evening, Mr. Rankin!
13 RANKIN: Who are you? Why have I been kidnapped..blindfolded...
14 and brought here?
15 NORCROSS: You were brought here because you have some information
16 I need.
17 RANKIN: Information? What information?
18 NORCROSS: Why - that's easy to answer -- Mr. Rankin...as chief
19 pay teller of the Seaboard Trust Bank..you have
20 an intimate knowledge of the inner and outer vault
21 combinations. You also know where the burglar alarms
22 are..and how to operate them.
23 RANKIN: You're wrong. I don't know anything about them.
24 NORCROSS: (INGRATIATING) Come come, Mr. Rankin. I have made
25 inquiries. Knowing these facts..is part of your job.
26 RANKIN: (DESPERATELY) I tell you, I know nothing!

1 NIXIE: Say, Boss..this guy is stalling!

2 MIKE: Yeah. Shall I bust him one on the mouth? Maybe that'll
3 open it!

4 NORCROSS: (CHIDING) No, no..Mike. That would be..shall I say..
5 too crude? Now, Rankin, for the last time..

6 RANKIN: (STUBBORNLY) I tell you I don't know a thing!

7 NORCROSS: (SIGHS REGRETFULLY) Very well. We have another way to
8 make you talk...

9 MIKE: You mean..the Red room, Chief?

10 NORCORSS: Yes..the Red Room. Remove the blindfold from Rankin's
12 eyes, Nixie...

13 NIXIE: Okay..

14 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

15 NORCROSS: (OILY) Mr. Rankin..you have been very unpleasant..
16 very stubborn about this whole thing. But I think .
17 you're going to change your mind. Nixie...remove the
18 floor carpet!

19 NIXIE: Right!

20 (SLIGHT SWISHING SOUND OF CARPET DRAGGED ALONG FLOOR)

21 NORCORSS: And now, my friend..look down through that glass trap
22 door in the floor ..and tell me what you see..,

23 RANKIN: (SLOWLY) Why....there's a room down there...it's
24 colored deep red. (VOICE BREAKS IN HORROR, THEN
25 HOARSELY) Why..why .. that color comes from ants...
26 millions of giant red ants! The room's full of them!
27 They're crawling an inch thick...on the floor...on the
28 walls!

1 NORCROSS: (SINISTER) Yes, my friend. Those beautiful blood
2 colored creatures are flesh-eating, legionary
3 ants...sometimes called "The Red Demons of the Jungles"
4 ..and well deserving of their name, as you shall see..!
5 RANKIN: (HOARSELY, FRIGHTENED) I don't understand...
6 NORCROSS: (EVILLY) You will, Rankin..you will! I have a
7 microphone down there in the Red Room. It's connected
8 to this dial, here in the wall. Listen..as I turn it!
9 (FADE IN: AN INHUMAN, SINGING INCESSANT SOUND, STEADY
10 SUSTAINED. SOMEWHAT HIGHER THAN THE SOUND OF A HUGE
11 SWARM OF BEES, PERHAPS LIKE THE SINGING SOUND OF
12 MILLIONS OF MOSQUITOS. HOLD THROUGH FOLLOWING.)
13 NORCROSS: (MACABRE) Listen, Rankin. My little half-inch pets
14 down there are singing for their supper...singing the
15 music ...of death! Do you understand?
16 RANKIN: (HOARSELY) I tell you...I don't know anything - ..
17 Nothing at all.
18 NORCROSS: Still being stubborn, eh, my friend? Still playing
19 the fool! What a pity! What a pity, indeed! Mike...!
20 MIKE: Yeah, Chief?
21 NORCROSS: Mr. Rankin needs further proof. We'll give him an..
22 er..exhibition. There's a slab of beef over there...
23 in the corner..
24 MIKE: I get you...
25 NORCORSS: Watch closely, my friend. You'll find this very
26 interesting. All right, Mike..Open the trap door and
27 drop the meat in..

1 MIKE: Okay...

2 (SOUND OF TRAP DOOR OPENING. SLIGHT PAUSE, THEN DULL

3 HEAVY THUD.)

4 NORCROSS: Watch...and...listen!

5 (THE STEADY SONG OF THE ANTS RISES IN INTENSITY.

6 IT KEEPS RISING UNTIL IT HITS A CRESCENDO, AS THEY

7 DEVOUR MEAT. HOLD CRESCENDO STEADY)

8 NORCROSS: (DRUNK WITH SIGHT) See...Rankin...how my carnivorous

9 red beauties devour that flesh! See how they crawl

10 over that carcass...millions of them...see how they

11 gorge themselves! Ah! Listen to them, my friend!

12 Listen to them sing!

13 RANKIN: (IN HORROR) You...fiend! You...evil fiend!

14 NORCROSS: (NOT HEARING) Yes...yes...they're hungry...

15 very hungry indeed! There's white showing through

16 the red already! Look, Rankin...it's bone! Clean

17 white bone...

18 NIXIE: (IN AWE) It's terrific...terrific!

19 MIKE: Get a load of that! There ain't any more meat left!

20 NORCROSS: Nothing now...but bones! My little pets have

21 feasted well!

22 (SONG OF ANTS BEGINS TO DROP GRADUALLY FROM CRESCENDO

23 FINALLY SETTLES INTO STEADY HUMMING SOUND, SUBDUED

24 IN COMPARISON.)

1 NORCROSS: (SMOOTHLY) Well, my friend? Are you willing to
2 talk now? Or shall I have these gentlemen drop
3 you into the Red Room!

4 RANKIN: (FRIGHTENED, NERVE IS BROKEN) No! No! I'll talk!
5 I'll talk! I'll tell you everything...everything!
6 Only don't throw me down there. Please - please -
7 I'll do whatever you say - only don't throw me in
8 there.

9 NORCROSS: I knew you'd see it my way, Rankin!
10 (SHORT MUSIC BRIDGE, MUSIC DOWN UNDER FOLLOWING)
11 (TRAFFIC IN B.G.)

12 NEWSBOY: Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Robbery at
13 Seaboard Trust! Half million dollars in cash and
14 securities taken in haul! Police comb city for
15 missing pay teller! Extra! (FADING) Read all about
16 it!

17 (MUSIC UP FOR A MOMENT AND THEN FADE...DOOR OPENS AND
18 CLOSES)

19 NORCROSS: (HEARTILY) Well! Hello, Lamont...hello, Miss Lane!
20 This is a surprise!

21 CRANSTON: (FADING IN) I told her that there wouldn't be
22 anything exciting in this interview, Norcross. But
23 she insisted on coming along!

24 NORCROSS: I'm glad she did. Miss Lane...to use the old, but
25 descriptive expression....you're a sight for sore eyes!

26 MARGOT: Why, that's very gallant of you, Mr. Norcross. By the
27 way, Lamont tells me you've just come back from South
28 America.

1 NORCROSS: That's right.

2 MARGOT: I suppose you were hunting a few rare butterflies for
3 that perfectly marvelous collection of yours...

4 NORCROSS: (REGRETFULLY) No. I don't have time for hobbies any
5 more. This was strictly business...arranging loans to
6 some Brazilian banks. And speaking of business,
7 Lamont, that's why I phoned you to drop in...

8 CRANSTON: Yes?

9 NORCROSS: As your financial adviser...I have bad news for you.
10 You had a large block of negotiable securities at the
11 Seaboard bank...and the thief got most of them last
12 night...

13 CRANSTON: I see. That is bad news!

14 NORCROSS: Oh, well...it may be just for the time being, Lamont.
15 Of course, the police may catch Rankin, the missing
16 pay teller, and recover your securities. But if they
17 don't, I think the bank will ultimately have to make
18 good on their cash value...

19 CRANSTON: You know, Norcross...I can't believe that Tom Rankin
20 robbed that bank.

21 MARGOT: Neither can I. You see, Mr. Norcross, both Lamont and
22 I have known Tom for years. He couldn't be a thief!

23 NORCROSS: (DRILY) Well...I've never met the man, but I'm afraid
24 everything points to it, Miss Lane. I dropped in at
25 Seaboard this morning. They tell me it was a perfect
26 inside job...

1 CRANSTON: (PUZZLED) I'll admit it looks bad..especially Tom's
2 disappearing the next day.

3 NORCROSS: There's no question about his guilt in my mind. But
4 getting away from the subject, Lamont..I'll list the
5 securities you lost, and keep you posted of any
6 progress I make...

7 CRANSTON: Thanks, Norcross. I'll leave the whole matter in
8 your hands, Come on, Margot..

9 MARGOT: Where to?

10 CRANSTON: Police Headquarters. I want to find out what
11 Commissioner Weston has to say about all this!

12 (MUSIC BRIDGE)

13 NORCROSS: (UNCTIOUSLY) My congratulations on the accuracy of
14 your information, Mr. Rankin. That affair at the bank
15 came off..without a hitch!

16 NIXIE: Yeah. It was a pip!

17 MIKE: A cinch...all around.

18 RANKIN: Well..you've got what you wanted. Now..let me go!

19 NORCROSS: (OILY) Let you go? Surely, Mr. Rankin..you don't
20 think I'm that stupid?

21 RANKIN: What do you mean?

22 NORCROSS: Just what I said, my friend. Wouldn't it be foolish
23 of me to release you..so that you could go straight
24 to the police!

1 RANKIN: I don't understand. What...what are you going to do
2 with me?
3 NORCROSS: There's only one thing to do with you, Rankin. All
4 right, boys!
5 (SOUND OF STRUGGLE, AD LIB: "COME ON, RANKIN")
6 RANKIN: (OVER SOUND OF STRUGGLING) Take your hands off me!
7 What....
8 MIKE: It's no use putting up a scrap, buddy. You're cooked..
9 and I mean...cooked!
10 NIXIE: Yeah. It'll be quick and easy, Rankin..you'll never
11 know what bit you! (LAUGHS COARSELY)
12 MIKE: All right, Nixie. I'll open the trap door. You
13 shove him down...
14 RANKIN: (SCREAMS) No! No! Don't! Don't throw me down there!
15 Don't throw me to those ants!
16 (SOUND OF TRAP DOOR OPENING. FADE IN: HUMMING SOUND
17 OF ANTS)
18 NIXIE: In you go, sucker!
19 RANKIN: (SCREAMING) No! No!.....(SCREAMS AGAIN)
20 (THEN DULL THUD OF BODY TO FLOOR BELOW. SCREAMING,
21 AGONIZED, SOMEWHAT OFF MIKE. SONG OF ANTS RISE TO
22 CRESCENDO, OVER AGONIZED SCREAMING)

1 (SCREAMING BELOW BECOMES WEAKER AND DIES UNDER
2 HUNGRY CRESCENDO OF FEASTING ANTS)
3 NCRCROSS: (CRUELLY) Interesting spectacle, isn't it, gentlemen?
4 ...Watching ants eat a man's flesh away to nothing
5 but bone and gristle! In a few moments, our stubborn
6 friend down below will be nothing but a clean skeleton.
7 And skeletons...like dead men...tell no tales!
8 (SONG OF ANTS BLENDS INTO MUSIC TRANSITION)
9 CRANSTON: You know, Weston, this Seaboard job takes me back
10 several years to the bank robberies Little Joe
11 Brenza used to pull...that is, before you caught
12 up with him.
13 MARGOT: Now there was a genius! If this Seaboard thing
14 had happened five years ago...I'd say Brenza was
15 behind it.
16 WESTON: Well, Brenza served his time and went out west...
17 several years ago. He's been an honest citizen...
18 ever since.
19 MARGOT: The straight-and narrow must be pretty dull for a
20 man of Little Joe's talents...
21 WESTON: Maybe. Anyway..this is an open and shut case if
22 I ever saw one. It's obvious that Rankin did it.
23 CRANSTON: You're pretty sure about it, are you, Weston?

1 WESTON: (EXPLOSIVELY) Of course I'm sure! I can add two and
2 two, Lamont! That pay teller pulled a smart inside
3 job and took it on the lam. But not for long!

4 CRANSTON: No?

5 WESTON: (EMPHATICALLY) No! We expect to pick him up within
6 forty-eight hours. I've got men at every airport,
7 railroad terminal, bus station...

8 CRANSTON: (AMUSED) Can I quote you on that in my newspaper,
9 Commissioner?

10 WESTON: (ABSENTLY) Of course. Furthermore we expect....
11 (STOPS SUDDENLY THEN ANGRILY) ..All right..all right....
12 Lamont! That isn't funny at all. Sometimes you can
13 be an infernal nuisance!

14 MARGOT: (SWEETLY) Does that apply to me, too, Commissioner?

15 WESTON: Yes, that goes double. But now....I've got work to do.
16 (SARCASTIC) If you'll excuse me...

17 CRANSTON: Tell me, Weston....I still don't see...

18 WESTON: (IRRITATED) Now look here, Lamont. I've heard enough.
19 You're just trying to twist a simply criminal case
20 into a pretzel. Now I'm a busy man and...
21 (DOOR OPENS)

22 CARDONA: Say, Commissioner..

23 WESTON: (IMPATIENTLY) What is it, Cardona?

24 CARDONA: I've just come from the river...We've been dragging the
25 bottom for the body of that escaped lunatic....

26 WESTON: I know. You've been on that job for three days! Did
27 you have any luck?

1 CARDONA: Well..we didn't find the body. But we pulled up
2 something else on our grappling irons...a pile of bones.
3 WESTON: A pile of bones? Where?
4 CARDONA: Just off the Eighth Street docks. They were large bones
5 ..from some big animal.
6 WESTON: Well..why bother me about it, Cardona? There's
7 probably a slaughterhouse in the vicinity...
8 CARDONA: No, sir. The nearest slaughterhouse is way over on
9 the North Side. And that isn't all...
10 WESTON: (IRRITABLY) What else is there?
11 CARDONA: Among that pile of animal bones, we found a human
12 skelton..the complete skelton of a man.
13 WESTON: What!
14 CARDONA: Yes sir. The bones were as clean as a whistle ..not an
15 ounce of flesh on 'em...
16 WESTON: That just doesn't make sense...
17 CRANSTON: I should say it does'nt, Weston. A drowned corpse
18 would float on top of the water. And even if it became
19 water-logged and finally sank..there'd still be flesh
20 on the bones...
21 WESTON: Cardona...
22 CARDONA: Yes, Commissioner?
23 WESTON: Have the boys pick up those bones and bring them to the
24 Laboratory for identification..at once!
25 (MUSIC TRANSITION)

1 NORCROSS: (FADING IN) Now Goodrich, head pay teller at the
2 Boulevard Bank, will be working late tonight. About
3 nine o'clock, he'll come through the side door of the
4 bank..and walk across Central Square to the Fourth
5 Street subway entrance. I want you boys to pick him up
6 before he gets to that station..and bring him here.
7 The Red Room will take care of the rest. Is that clear?
8 MIKE: Yeah, Chief.
9 NIXIE: It ought to be a cinch.
10 NORCROSS: (CHUCKLES) Two or three of these little jobs ..and
11 we'll be able to retire for life on our savings...eh,
12 boys?
13 (HE BEGINS TO LAUGH EVILLY. THEY JOIN IN. AD LIB.
14 "ON OUR SAVINGS..YEAH!" "THAT'S A HOT ONE, BOSS!")
15 (MUSIC MONTAGE)
16 NEWSBOY: (YELLING) Extra! Extra! Second Mysterious Bank
17 Robbery. Boulevard Bank Cleaned Out In Inside Job!
18 Strange Resemblance to Seaboard Robbers As Police
19 Hunt Martin Goodrich, Second Missing Pay Teller.
20 (FADE) Extra! Read All About It!
21 (MUSIC UP AND THEN FADE OUT)
22 CRANSTON: It's amazing..amazing. Both the Seaboard and
23 Boulevard Banks were broken into..in exactly the
24 same way.
25 MARGOT: Like two peas in a pod....right down to the last detail..
26 CRANSTON: What do you make of it, Weston?

1 WESTON: I think it's pretty obvious, Lamont. This fellow
2 Marshall saw how Tom Rankin got away with that haul
3 at Seaboard ...and tried it himself..
4 CRANSTON: Well..I suppose that's the obvious deduction.
5 WESTON: (POSITIVE) It's the only deduction!
6 MARGOT: You'll pardon me if I change the subject, Commissioner.
7 But what about those bones they found in the river?
8 WESTON: Well, Miss Lane, the laboratory had identified the
9 animal bones as those of parts of a cow..beef bones,
10 you might say...
11 CRANSTON: (THOUGHTFULLY) Beef bones, eh? And what about the
12 human skelton?
13 WESTON: We're checking that for identification now. Here..
14 look at this photograph...
15 CRANSTON: Hmmm. Interesting....
16 MARGOT: Why...it's a picture of teeth..teeth in the mouth of
17 a human skull...
18 WESTON: Yes..We photographed the teeth of the skelton. You
19 can see for yourself that the deceased had some pretty
20 complicated bridge and crown work done...
21 CRANSTON: Any idea who it is?
22 WESTON: Not at the moment. But we're sending a copy of this
23 photo to every dentist in town...in the hope that one
24 of them might identify it....
25 CRANSTON: That's a very clever idea, Weston..

1 WESTON: (DRILY) Thanks, Lamont. Coming from you....that is
2 a compliment!
3 (PHONE RINGS) (CLICK)
4 Hello. Commissioner Weston talking...
5 EDWARDS: (FILTER) Commissioner..this is Dr. Harvey Edwards
6 calling. I'm a dentist up on the North Side...
7 WESTON: Yes?
8 EDWARDS: (FILTER) I just got a copy of that photograph you
9 sent out..
10 WESTON: (ALERT) Yes, Dr. Edwards?
11 EDWARDS: (FILTER) The bridgework done is rather unusual..and it
12 corresponds exactly to some work I did on one of my
13 patients..
14 WESTON: (GETTING EXCITED) Now we're getting somewhere! Who
15 was that patient, Doctor?
16 EDWARDS: (FILTER) Thomas Rankin. The bank employee you're
17 looking for!
18 (MUSIC TRANSITION)
19 (SOUND OF AUTO MOTOR)
20 (MIDDLE COMMERCIAL)

1 ANN: We are happy to have in the studio, the President,
2 Mr. Gordon C. Cooke, of the D. L. & W. Coal Company,
3 distributors of 'blue coal'. You've read a lot about the
4 winter fuel problem in the papers - how the Government
5 has asked you to cooperate. Mr. Cooke will tell you
6 exactly how this applies to coal and what you can do/^{about it.}

7 COOKE: Ladies and gentlemen. There is enough coal available
8 for everyone this winter. I repeat, there is enough
9 coal to keep every home warm during the coming months.
10 The Anthracite industry this winter will produce many
11 millions of tons more than last winter. In spite of
12 this, we are faced with a real problem, and here's why.
13 The people have wholeheartedly cooperated with the
14 Government-sponsored program to buy early -- fill your
15 bin now. Many people, however, have gone farther than
16 was intended and bought more than this winter's needs.
17 The consequences are that while more coal has been
18 shipped to your community than last year, there are
19 still many people with empty bins. The Government asks
20 everyone to work together on a plan which will permit
21 some coal in every bin. Possibly you have ordered coal,
22 but haven't yet received it. Please be patient with
23 your dealer. In order to make sure that there is some
24 coal in every bin, it may be necessary for him to make
25 only a partial delivery of your order right now.

(MORE)

(MIDDLE COMMERCIAL...CONTINUED)

1 COOKE: Remember, in this crisis, we have to share and share
(CONT'D) 2 alike. Everyone must cooperate, so don't demand more
3 than your share -- then our slogan: some coal in every
4 bin can be realized. Remember, you can help your
5 dealer -- you can help yourself -- and you can help
6 your Government.

7 ANN: Thank you, Mr. Cooke. It is encouraging to know that
8 there will be enough coal for everyone this winter,
9 and I am sure, Mr. Cooke, that all your listeners will
10 be happy to cooperate with the Government in this way.
11 I know that they will be patient with the coal dealers
12 in spreading out their deliveries. And folks, in
13 ordering your 'blue coal', tell your dealer how much
14 coal you now have on hand. Tell him also how much coal
15 you will require to heat your home this season. This
16 will enable him to set up a delivery schedule and see
17 to it that you are kept comfortably warm all winter.

1 MARGOT: (SIGHS) You know, Lamont, this searching for a man
2 who makes frequent purchases of beef sides...is like
3 looking for a needle in a haystack. We've been to
4 every meat-packing house in town! Their only customers
5 ...are butchers.

6 CRANSTON: I know, Margot. But we've got to keep looking. Those
7 beef bones are our only real lead. We'll try the
8 super meat markets next....

9 MARGOT: (SUDDENLY) Oh, Lamont...by the way...I almost forgot
10 to tell you.

11 CRANSTON: Yes?

12 MARGOT: Mr. Norcross called you...but you were out. He phoned
13 and left a message with me...

14 CRANSTON: What is it, Margot?

14 MARGOT: The Seaboard bank has promised to make good your
15 securities...in cash...

16 CRANSTON: Well...I'm glad to hear that.

17 (CAR BEGINS TO SLOW DOWN)

18 Now, let's see...Margot. There's a big meat market
19 over there on the corner. Let's start by inquiring
20 there...

21 MARGOT: (SIGHS) Lead on, MacDuff. We'll find that beef buyer
22 if it takes us to doomsday!

23 (MONTAGE MUSIC)

24 BUTCHER I: Help you, Sir?

25 CRANSTON: Yes - could you sell me a side of beef?

1 BUTCHER I: A whole side of beef?
2 CRANSTON: Yes....
3 BUTCHER I: Well, I can get it for you -- but I'd have to call the
4 warehouse. I haven't had an order for a whole side of
5 beef since I've been in business.
6 CRANSTON: Well, don't bother -- thank you just the same -- Come
7 on Margot --
8 (MUSIC UP FADE DOWN HOLD UNDER)
9 MARGOT: Here's another one Lamont -- shall we try here?
10 CRANSTON: Might just as well -- Come on --
11 (DOOR OPEN -- BELL TINKLES)
12 BUTCHER II: (GERMAN) Can I help you?
13 MARGOT: Yes, you can - Could you tell us if you have a
14 customer who buys a side of beef regularly?
15 BUTCHER II: (LAUGHING) A side of beef? He must have a big family,
16 yah -- Who would buy a side of beef -- Nobody in this
17 neighborhood has that many kids.
18 MARGOT: Thank you -- No luck here, Lamont --
19 CRANSTON: We'll keep on trying, Margot -- Come on --
20 (MUSIC UP FADE DOWN HOLD UNDER.)
21 (DOOR CLOSSES -- STREET TRAFFIC UNDER)
22 CRANSTON: Well - at least he didn't laugh at us --
23 MARGOT: No -- but he didn't help us any either --
24 CRANSTON: Look, Margot, there's another butcher shop across the
25 street -- let's try that --
26 MARGOT: You know Lamont -- with all the butchers there are
27 around here I'd say the competition in the meat
28 business must be pretty keen
29 (MUSIC UP FADE DOWN AND OUT.)

1 (SOUNDS OF MEAT-MARKET: CHOPPING OF MEAT. SAWING OF
2 BONE ETC. OCCASIONAL CLANG OF CASH REGISTER. SLIGHT
3 BUZZ OF VOICES) (CONTINUOUS THROUGH SCENE)
4 MARGOT: Well...We've been to five of these markets already.
5 I wonder how crazy this butcher will think we are!
6 CRANSTON: I'll admit we're asking for some unusual information.
7 It isn't everyone that buys half a cow just like that.
8 Still...we've got to keep trying and (STOPS SUDDENLY)
9 Say...Margot!
10 MARGOT: What is it, Lamont?
11 CRANSTON: I just caught a glimpse of someone in that office...in
12 the rear of the market...as a clerk opened and closed
13 the door...
14 MARGOT: Well?
15 CRANSTON: The man who is sitting at the desk there...happens to
16 be an old friend of ours...
17 MARGOT: An old friend? Who?
18 CRANSTON: Little Joe Brenza...
19 MARGOT: (ASTONISHED) Little Joe!...Lamont...are you sure?
20 CRANSTON: Positive.
21 MARGOT: But...how could that be? Brenza's supposed to be out
22 west. And the proprietor of this market is a
23 Mr. Powell...
24 CRANSTON: He could have come east again...and he could have
25 changed his name...

1 MARGOT: What on earth is Little Joe Brenza doing...running a
2 meat market?
3 CRANSTON: I don't know, Margot. But you stay here. Mr. Brenza
4 is going to receive a visit...from the Shadow!
5 (MUSIC BRIDGE SHORT)
6 (DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES SOFTLY. PHONE RINGS. RECEIVER
7 CLICK)
8 BRENZA: Hello. Yeah...this is Powell, Oh...hello, Nixie.
9 Another side of beef? Say...this is getting to be a
10 regular thing. Big doings tonight, eh? Well...good
11 luck. Where do you want it delivered? Same address?
12 Okay. I'll send a truck out with it right away.
13 (CLICK OF RECEIVER)
14 SHADOW: (LAUGHS)

1 BRENZA: (FRIGHTENED) What was that? Who's laughin'!
2 SHADOW: The voice you hear...is the voice of the Shadow!
3 BRENZA: The Shadow? What are you tryin' to do...kid me?
4 There ain't any such thing....
5 SHADOW: (LAUGHS AGAIN) Those who break the laws of society
6 know the Shadow...to their sorrow.
7 BRENZA: But where are you. I can't see you!
8 SHADOW: No one has ever seen me. I have the power to cloud
9 your mind, Brenza...
10 BRENZA: (FEARFULLY) You....you got me wrong, Shadow. My name
11 isn't Brenza. It's Powell!
12 SHADOW: (STERNLY) Don't lie to me, Little Joe. I knew you
13 in the old days!
14 BRENZA: (SCARED) What do you want?
15 SHADOW: Who pulled the robberies at the Seaboard and Boulevard
16 Banks?
17 BRENZA: (TERRIFIED) I don't know! Honest, Shadow...I don't
18 know!
19 SHADOW: (INEXORABLY) It could be you, couldn't it, Brenza?
20 BRENZA: (DESPERATELY) No! No! Look, Shadow...I'm on the
21 level, so help me! I changed my name and bought this
22 business. I've gone straight ever since I got out of
23 the pen. Give me a break, will you? I haven't done
24 anything....
25 SHADOW: That remains to be seen. But there's one more thing.
26 Brenza....a moment ago you received a phone call for a
27 side of beef. Where are you going to deliver that beef?
28 BRENZA: (CONFUSED, FRIGHTENED) I...I....I can't tell you,
29 Shadow!

1 SHADOW: Tell me the address, Brenza!
2 BRENZA: (PANICKY) I....I can't...!
3 SHADOW: (INEXORABLY) I'll give you one more chance, my friend!
4 BRENZA: (TERRIFIED) All right! All right! I'll tell you.
5 It's Number four, River Street...corner of Eighth.
6 SHADOW: Thank you, Little Joe. You've been very helpful. But
7 I warn you...if you have lied to me...you shall pay.
8 Remember...the Shadow is watching you! (LAUGHS)
9 (MUSIC TRANSITION...INTO STEADY SINGING SOUND OF ANTS
10 COMING FROM RED ROOM)
11 GOODRICH: (HOARSELY) Let me out of here! Let...me...out...of
12 here! Those red devils...just listening to them...
13 they're driving me insane!
14 MIKE: You ain't heard anything yet, Goodrich!
15 NIXIE: I'll say you ain't, Buddy. Wait'll the Chief gets
16 here, You'll hear some real music then....
17 (SOUND OF DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING)
18 MIKE: Here he is, now.
19 NORCROSS: (OILY) Good evening, Mr. Goodrich!
20 GOODRICH: Let me out of here...whoever you are! I've told you
21 everything!
22 NORCROSS: My compliments on the accuracy of your information,
23 Goodrich...and the forethought of your bank in keeping
24 so much cash on hand. You have served me well!
25 GOODRICH: You can't do this! No!... No!....You'll pay for this.
26 NORCROSS: No, my friend. You will. You see...I have no further
27 need of your services. Therefore...I must dispense
28 with you!

1 GOODRICH: (HOARSELY) What do you mean?
2 NORCROSS: (UNCAUTIOUSLY) Simply this. I am going to retire
3 you....to the Red Room! All right, boys....!
4 GOODRICH: (AGONIZED) No! No! You're not going to throw me to
5 those....those...devils! You're not....
6 SHADOW: (LAUGHS)
7 MIKE: Hey! What was that?
8 NIXIE: (FEARFULLY) A voice. Somebody laughin'....
9 NORCROSS: But that's impossible. There's no one else in this
10 room!
11 SHADOW: You're wrong, Norcross. The Shadow...is here!...
12 Beside you!
13 NORCROSS: (ALMOST A WHISPER) The....Shadow? I can't see you!
14 SHADOW: No, Norcross, no one can see me. I've cast a hypnotic
15 mist over your eyes.
16 MIKE: (FRIGHTENED) I don't get it. I can't see a thing...
17 but I can hear him talkin'....
18 NIXIE: (FRANTIC) Come on, Mike. Let's get out of here!
19 SHADOW: Stay where you are...both of you! You'll never be able
20 to run away....from your crimes! (HARSHLY) Stand
21 where you are!

1 NIXIE: (BADLY FRIGHTENED) Okay, Shadow..okay.
2 MIKE: (FRIGHTENED) We ain't movin', Shadow..
3 NORCROSS: (SNARLS) You don't think you've going to get away with
4 this do you, my invisible friend?
5 (SOUND OF SHOT...THEN ANOTHER AND ANOTHER, QUICK
6 SUCCESSION)
7 NORCROSS: (LAUGHS) These'll go through any ghost..
8 ... (MOMENT OF SILENCE) Well, Shadow? Why don't
9 you say something, now? Why don't you talk, eh? Why
10 don't you talk? You can't any more, can you?
11 Because...you're dead!
12 SHADOW: (LAUGHS)
13 NIXIE: (AWED) He's still here!
14 MIKE: (AWED) Yeah...
15 SHADOW: You are a fool, Norcross. I am the one thing you
16 cannot kill...as you have killed the others!
17 NORCROSS: (BREAKING, LOSING NERVE) No! No! I...it can't be...
18 SHADOW: It was clever of you, Norcross, to bring these ants up
19 from Brazil and breed them here..for murder. As an
20 amateur zoologist..you knew how deadly they were.
21 Your greed for money, alone, was not enough to satisfy
22 the devil in your soul.
23 NORCROSS: (FRIGHTENED) You can't prove a thing..not a thing!
24 SHADOW: Tom Rankin's body has already been identified, Norcross.
25 And Martin Goodrich's testimony here...will send you
26 and your henchmen...to the electric chair!
27 GOODRICH: Just get out of here! I'll talk..plenty!

1 NORCROSS: (PASSIONATELY) They'll never get me! (VOICE MOVES
2 OFF SLIGHTLY) They'll never take me..alive!
3 MIKE: Hey! The Chief's makin' a break for it!
4 NIXIE: (YELLS) Look out, Boss! The trap-door to the Red
5 Room! Look out!
6 (SOUND OF TRAP-DOOR FLAPPING DOWN..AGONIZED SCREAM.
7 THEN A DULL HEAVY THUD. THEN CONTINUOUS SCREAMING)
8 MIKE: He went right through the trap-door! Forgot to step
9 over it!
10 NIXIE: Yeah. Look! Those red devils are swarmin' all over
11 him now!
12 (SOUND OF ANTS QUICKLY RISING TO CRESCENDO AND HOLD
13 STEADY AGONIZED SCREAMS BECOME WEAKER THEN DIE)
14 SHADOW: Though justice moves slowly, it is as sure as life..
15 as certain as death!
16 (THEN SOUND OF POUNDING ON DOOR. WESTON'S VOICE OFF.
17 "OPEN UP! OPEN UP!" "THIS IS THE POLICE!")
18 SHADOW: And now, gentlemen...
19 MIKE AND NIXIE: Yes, Shadow.
20 SHADOW: Goodbye. I'll leave you to the tendermercy of
21 Commissioner Weston..and the Law!
22 (LAUGHS)
23 (THERE IS THE SOUND OF SPLINTERING CRASH AS DOOR
24 BREAKS THROUGH. LAUGHTER OF SHADOW FADES OFF)
25 (MUSIC TRANSTION)
26 CRANSTON: Lawrence Norcross was heavily in debt, Weston. He had
27 gambled away huge sums of his clients' money...and he
28 had to make good.
29 MARGOT: He almost did. What about the loot, Commissioner?

1 WESTON: (SQUIRMING EFFECT IN DIALOGUE) We..found..it ..right..
2 on the..premises..Not..a.. dime .. was missing. As for
3 Little Joe Brenza and the others...they're going to
4 live at the expense of the state for a long, long time.
5 (GRUNTS)
6 CRANSTON: So Brenza was in it up to his ears?
7 WESTON: Yes. Nixie Marroni's confession implicated him. That
8 meat-market was only a front. (GRUNTS) Norcross was
9 the brains...Little Joe furnished the bank-busting
10 technique. (GRUNTS)
11 CRANSTON: (HALF-TO-HIMSELF) So he did lie to me!
12 WESTON: What was that you said, Lamont? (GRUNTS)
13 CRANSTON: Oh..nothing, Weston..nothing...Just talking to myself..
14 MARGOT: For heaven's sake, Commissioner..what are you squirming
15 about?
16 WESTON: It's those red ants, Miss Lane. We've just exterminated
17 them [with gas fumes..and I think a few of the little
18 devils got under my skin. Anyway...I've .. been...
19 itching..all .. over..for..an .. hour! (GRUNTS)
20 CRANSTON: Well..how about having dinner with us, Weston? Maybe
21 some good food will make you forget your troubles...
22 WESTON: No thanks, Lamont. I think I'll skip it..in favor of
23 a Turkish bath!
24 (MUSIC UP TO FINISH)

1 ANNRR: Now let me introduce 'blue coal's' distinguished
2 heating expert, John Barclay.
3 BARCLAY: Thank you, Kenneth Roberts, and good afternoon friends.
4 It sure seems like old times to be back talking to you
5 again. For the past few years, I've been giving heating
6 hints on how to conserve fuel. This is much more
7 important today than ever before. Starting next week,
8 I'll tell you definite ways to get more out of your fuel
9 and get the maximum efficiency out of your heating
10 equipment. Right now, I'd like to compliment Mr. Cooke
11 on his message to you. As you know, folks, the
12 Government has specifically requested all coal dealers
13 to cooperate during the next few weeks when folks
14 normally start the furnaces. They are asking dealers
15 not to deliver more than enough coal for immediate
16 requirements, and not to make any deliveries to
17 customers who have an adequate supply of coal in their
18 bins right now. The object of this is to make sure that
19 not one single family will be cold this winter. This
20 problem will exist for the next few weeks, and I know
21 that you will be more than willing to help.
22 (MUSIC)

(STANDARD CLOSING)

1 ANN: The SHADOW program is based on a story copyrighted
2 by Street and Smith Publications. The characters,
3 names, places and plot are fictitious. Any similarity
4 to persons living or dead is purely coincidental.
5 Next week, same time, same station, the SHADOW again
6 will demonstrate that...
7 SHADOW: (FILTER) The week of crime bears bitter fruit. Crime
8 does not pay. The SHADOW knows...(LAUGH)
9 (MUSIC)
10 ANN: These programs are brought to you by your friendly
11 'blue coal' dealer. He is listed in the yellow section
12 of your classified 'phone book. Help him to serve you
13 and your neighbors well this winter by sharing coal
14 deliveries. In that way, you'll "keep the home fires
15 burning" with 'blue coal'. This story produced by
16 the D.L. & W. coal company, distributors of 'blue
17 coal'.
18 (SYSTEM CUE)