

# The Footwear Filcher



The summer of '59 will always be remembered in Glandersville for the rash of shoe thefts. Although the town's shoe salons were hardest hit, a dozen residents also lost their personal footwear, including the perpetually preoccupied Pansy Posner, whose pumps were pilfered while she was still wearing them. The police suspected Frankie Farnsworth, a local gumshoe who twice before had been convicted of pinching shoes. But there was no proof, and, besides, the crimes were more of a nuisance than a serious problem. That changed when a handful of heliotrope high heels were heisted from the home of Helga Heisenweimer, the police chief's mother-in-law. Suddenly, the cops were *very* involved. Immediately, Chief Meptang set a trap. He bummed 40 pairs of patent leathers from The Shoe Zoo, glued them to the floor of Room 18 of the Henny Penny Motel, then leaked word of their whereabouts to the city's racketeers. The con worked. That night, Frankie was caught red-footed, cradling one of the shoes that he'd managed to wrest off of the carpet. But the perp's public defender claimed entrapment. A judge agreed and let Frankie walk free – in someone else's shoes, as it turned out.