

Modern Criminologist Bests Fictional Sherlock Holmes

(Editors Note: This is the first of two articles about Stanley MacDonald, outstanding criminologist who has played a prominent role in Pacific Northwest crime detection for nearly a half century).

By GORMAN HOGAN

PORTLAND (AP)—Stanley MacDonald, new head of the criminal division of the Multnomah County Sheriff's office, is a criminologist who has bested in real life the remarkable feats of the fictional Sherlock Holmes.

For example he has, in the past seven years, solved six major murder cases without even visiting the scene of the crime and usually without talking to the principals involved.

As a detective, he and his partner, the late Bert Love, never failed to solve a case in their seven years together.

MacDonald has testified as an expert witness on fingerprinting, ballistics and handwriting in more than 400 criminal cases in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, nearly all of them resulting in convictions.

His services as a handwriting expert are sought throughout the entire west in not only criminal but civil cases as well. But he is so busy, working on as many as eight cases at once, he has no time to go outside the Pacific Northwest.

Now he'll be busier than he's ever been before in his 41 years with the sheriff's office. In addition to heading the criminal division, he'll continue as superintendent of the Criminal Bureau of Investigation, a department he organized in 1927 and shepherded to its present place of high esteem in law enforcement circles.

Scientific knowledge is revolutionizing the field of criminal detection but it never will replace the human element, MacDonald says. A good detective in his opinion is one who "knows everybody and everything about his own district so he can build a complete picture" when a crime has been committed.

But he believes that the modern-day detective should have greater technical training on how to preserve evidence and link it up to bring about solution of a crime.

An example of this is MacDonald's own solution of a murder case simply by a study of the evidence.

A woman was shot to death on the Olympic Peninsula of Washington and a coroner's jury brought in a verdict of accidental death. But the prosecuting attorney and some of the townspeople were not satisfied with the verdict. Unable to make the trip because of a pending trial, MacDonald asked that evidence in the case be brought to him in Portland. This included the death weapon, a double-barreled shotgun; the woman's clothing; some good photographs of the wounds; the investigating officer's report, and the husband's statement.

MacDonald first studied the husband's statement which briefly, was this:

A writer, he was outside packing for a trip to Canada. His wife, who was helping him, called from inside the house to ask whether he wanted to take his double-barreled shotgun along. He told her no because the hunting season was over.

Next thing he heard, the husband said, was an explosion. He ran inside to find his wife fatally wounded on the floor beside the table. Apparently he had grasped the gun by the end of the barrel

and pulled it toward her across the table, causing both barrels to discharge accidentally and almost simultaneously.

This was one of the odd things about the gun, the husband said. It sometimes fired both barrels when only one trigger was pulled.

MacDonald, once an apprenticed gun and lock smith, tested the shotgun by firing it several times. Not once did both barrels discharge at the same time. He took the gun apart, found the trigger mechanism in perfect working order. Then he turned to a study of the photographs of the wounds.

One wound was in the solar plexus and one between the collarbone and neck. They were 11½ inches apart, an impossible distance if the two barrels fired simultaneously, as the husband said they had. Furthermore, MacDonald, by closer study of the photos, discovered a third wound under the woman's left breast. Soot marks showed, besides, that some of the shotgun pellets had grazed her chin.

"That showed," MacDonald said, "that the gun had to be loaded again to be fired a third time. I told the prosecutor it was a case of murder and to exhum the body."

An autopsy showed the woman had been alive when she was shot in the stomach and under the breast, but was dead when shot between the neck and collarbone. "The husband was arrested and confessed," MacDonald recalls with a smile of satisfaction, "and pleaded guilty to second-degree murder."

Schooled as an engineer, Mac-

Donald, a pleasant soft-spoken man with a ready smile, took a temporary job as a Multnomah County jailer during slack times in 1915. Soon he was made a process server and later was named to the detective force.

He had a limited knowledge of fingerprinting, was a talented photographer and was an expert with the microscope when, in 1927, Sheriff Thomas Hurlburt asked him to organize the bureau of identification. He's been there ever since, with the exception of one month.

That was in 1949, when discredited Marion (Mike) Elliott sheriff. When MacDonald refused to knuckle under to Elliott, the veteran officer was suspended.

Public reaction was immediate and violent. MacDonald demonstrated once more that he was a top detective.

"Within a week," he says, "I knew, through my own investigation, everything there was to know about Elliott from the time he was seven years old."

That included some unsavory information. And when it was made public the people recalled Elliott, MacDonald was restored to his job.



FOR RETARDED CHILDREN—The Academy of Friendship of the Women of the Moose has given a check for about \$57 to the Roseburg Assn. for Retarded Children. Mrs. E. D. Yow, chairman of the academy, (second from left) is shown presenting the check to Mrs. Alice Johnson, president of the association. At left is Mrs. Cecil Doty, chairman of the welfare project in which a cedar chest was won in a contest from which funds were received for the association activities. At right is Mrs. Henry Cooper, a member of the academy. She is the mother of Mrs. Betty Singleton, who won the cedar chest. Mrs. Yow said still more money for the association is coming in from the project. (Koop's Modern Photography).



MAY ROYALTY—Mary Allen (above left) reigns today as queen of the annual May Day celebration at Canyonville Bible Academy. Her maid of honor is Cecilia Webb (right).



Parents' Orientation Meetings Start Here

Parent orientation meetings have started in the Roseburg school district to discuss registration information for next year.

Canyonville Students Take Contest Honors

Canyonville High School students took top honors in the Southern Douglas One-Act play contest held recently at the Days Creek School gym. Their play "Great Smokies" was judged the first place winner. Anne Daniels, as the Widow Daisy Snodgrass, took the first place for the best actress, and Charles Black, as Paw Schieppeler, was awarded the second place actor medal.

The Days Creek comedy "Eh," won the second place trophy. Don Lee, as Eustice Van Slyde, the "gentleman of fortune" won the first place medal for best actor; and the second place actress award went to Florette McGee, as Mary the maid. Camas Valley presented a domestic comedy entitled "Lemon Pie for Andy," directed by Mr. Clyde Akey. Canyonville and Days Creek directors were Mrs. Royle and Mr. Loren Sheldon, respectively. The trophies and medals were presented by Days Creek Superintendent Marlen Yoder.

Special acts between plays were presented by Florette McGee, Lavon Bennett and Judy Murphy, all of Days Creek. A crowd of about 100 attended this fourth annual one-act play contest.

Judges for the event were Miss Mabel Williams, Mrs. Helen Henderson and Mrs. Olive Brown, all of Myrtle Creek.

4-H Cooking Club Plans Cookie Judging Meeting

The Cookie Cutters 4-H Cooking Club met recently at the home of their leader, Mrs. Robert Benson. A demonstration on peanut butter cookies was given by Charles McGee and Barbara Nelson. Miss Jane Gates, County 4-H leader, gave a talk on cookie "tips" and a sample judging demonstration. The club members then worked on judging terms.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday. Members are to bring cookies for judging by the group.

Truck Driver, Woman Companion Are Killed

FOREST GROVE (AP)—A logging truck driver and his woman passenger were killed Monday when the heavily loaded vehicle careened off a curve on Highway 47, skidded nearly 100 feet and smashed into a utility pole.

The truck cab was crushed. Duayne Grosser, 29, Grand Ronde, the driver, and Mrs. Josephine N. Robins, 36, McMinnville, were pinned inside.

Police said skid marks indicated the truck skidded into a guard rail before plowing into the pole. The truck was owned by the Stone Fuel Co., Willamina.

THOROUGH-CLEAN RUG AND UPHOLSTERY CLEANING SERVICE

In Your Home Town or Country Wall to Wall

By Newly Invented Electric Machines

These machines and methods replace unreliable hand methods. These machines and methods are endorsed by the "Four" largest manufacturers of upholstery fabrics.

MOTH PROOFING

Call: J. E. NEWBERRY
1332 N. E. Commercial Ave. Ph. OR 3-3591

Europe Move Set For Local Men

Scheduled to leave the U. S. for Germany late next month as part of Operation Gyroscope, the Army's unit rotation plan, are six local soldiers. Their unit, the 3rd Armored Division, now stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., will replace the 4th Infantry Division in Europe.

Four Roseburg men included in this group are:

Pvt. Hal R. Fretwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh J. Fretwell, who is assigned to the service battery of the division's 509th Field Artillery Battalion. He entered the Army in August 1955.

Pvt. Ralph R. Mendenhall whose wife, Helen, lives at 1942 Fairmount Ave., is a driver in Battery B of the division's 6th Field Artillery Battalion. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Mendenhall, Rt. 2, Mendenhall entered the Army in July, 1955.

Pvt. Earl J. Telford, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Telford, Route 4, is also a driver in Battery B and entered the Army in July 1955. Pvt. Wayne R. Dilworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Dilworth, 645 NE Lincoln Street, is a dental specialist in headquarters company of the division's 43th Medical Battalion. He entered the Army in August 1955.

These four men are all former students of Roseburg High School. Pfc James M. Watkins, son of Mrs. Willie Ward, Drain, is a radio and telephone operator in the

battery. His father, Joe D. Watkins, lives in Denny, Calif. He entered the Army in June 1955. Pvt. Harry G. Pinniger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pinniger, Glendale, is a radio operator in the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion's Company A. He entered the Army in July 1955.

3 flights a day to **PORTLAND**

\$11.65

plus tax

WEST COAST AIRLINES

Scheduled Local Service

DUST OILING

Call Us For Estimates

Roseburg Fuel Oil Service

Phone OR 3-8155

WHATEVER YOU BUY

YOU WANT THE BEST BUY FOR THE LEAST AMOUNT OF MONEY!

In a new car, your best buy is

OLDSMOBILE

Here are the facts:

THE BEST BUY IN ITS PRICE FIELD BY A NATIONAL RATING CORP.

THE BEST IN RESALE VALUE ACCORDING TO AUTO WEEK MAGAZINE

THE ONLY CAR TO WIN TWO FIRST PLACES IN THE MOBILGAS ECONOMY RUN

Motor Trend Magazine states "the new Oldsmobile is likely to gain a reputation that will label it much more than simply a hot car."

You Owe It To Yourself To Investigate Before You Invest

Look at the rest and then buy the best—the 1956 Oldsmobile from Pal Motors where you are sure of the best buy because we never lose a new car deal on price.

Regardless of what your present car is, we will allow you the top dollar trade-in value and give you the best buy in today's market.

WE CHALLENGE YOU TO INVESTIGATE OUR DEAL. COME IN FOR A FREE DEMONSTRATION

PAL MOTORS, Ltd.

529 S. E. Stephens—Open Evenings and Sundays—Phone OR 3-4401

WINTER IS

LOOKING FOR YOUR LISTING

Phone OR 3-7043

the most controversial beauty aid of our time!

ROYAL BEE CREAM

containing ROYAL JELLY

as discovered and introduced in France... the precious substance that sustains the Youth and Vigor of the Queen Bee forty times the normal span... and that Science finds has amazing beautifying properties on human skin.

Now for the first time, a beauty aid containing this revolutionary ingredient for only \$5

Mrs. Hazel Dell Manock Special Representative Will Be In Our Store May 2nd for specialized treatment advice

Chapman's Pharmacy

Jackson & Cass Sts. Phone OR 3-4533

THOROUGH-CLEAN RUG AND UPHOLSTERY CLEANING SERVICE

In Your Home Town or Country Wall to Wall

By Newly Invented Electric Machines

These machines and methods replace unreliable hand methods. These machines and methods are endorsed by the "Four" largest manufacturers of upholstery fabrics.

MOTH PROOFING

Call: J. E. NEWBERRY
1332 N. E. Commercial Ave. Ph. OR 3-3591