

YOUNG KLUXEN GETS SHELTER

Monell Sayre, Multimillionaire, Adopts Boy Shunned by His Entire Neighborhood.

(By Josephine Van de Grift)
NEA Service Staff Writer
CONVENT, N. J.—Monell Sayre, 48-year-old bachelor and many times a millionaire, has just adopted as his son and made heir to his fortune, a 14-year-old boy upon whose head two years ago rested the stigma of murder.

"It may be the one thing I have lived for," he says and thus does this bachelor, millionaire, churchman characterize his act in giving refuge to a boy whom his native city of Madison, N. J., was persecuting.

The boy is Francis Kluxen, 3rd, henceforth to be known as Francis Kluxen Sayre. He is tall and awkward with the ungainliness of youth but his mouth has an ingenious smile and his eyes are an untroubled blue.

It was two years ago that the little city of Madison, N. J., was stirred by the brutal murder of 11-year-old Janet Lawrence. Two knife wounds were found on the child's body, the deed, apparently, of a maniac.

But tangible clues to the murderer were lacking. The public rage, determined to see punishment done, finally settled on Francis Kluxen, then 14 years old. These were the counts against the lad:

The Kluxen home was near the woods where Janet's body was found.

A handkerchief was found in the woods which bore striking similarity to that of Francis' handkerchief. The wounds on the child's body might have been made with a knife similar to the Boy Scout knife which Francis carried.

Presented with such evidence as this two grand juries refused to indict the boy. Then a gardener by the name of Frank Jencarek was arrested, tried and acquitted.

Following this Francis was arrested. The jury acquitted him in 20 minutes.

"I knew I didn't do it and they couldn't prove I did, so why worry?" said Francis, and after that all should have gone well. But—

Francis Kluxen's father, a man in humble circumstances, had used his all to defend the boy. He is today without a job.

School children gathered in little groups and pointed their fingers at Francis. There was no money to send him to school outside the community.

People passed him with averted faces.

One day when Francis was standing with three companions on a lawn shots were fired at him from a passing automobile.

That was when Monell Sayre, executive vice president of the Pension Fund of the Episcopal Church of America and millionaire vestryman of the Grace Episcopal Church of Madison, entered upon the scene. He invited the boy to spend a few days at his home in Convent which lies just outside of Madison.

"The boy was being persecuted," says Sayre, "and I took him into my home to protect him."

The days lengthened into 18 months. The millionaire and his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Friend Pitts learned to love the boy. Sayre took him to England where Francis had tea with the Archbishop of Canterbury and made friends with British statesmen.

Back home again Sayre took measures to adopt the boy. Probably three lines in a newspaper would have been all that the world would ever have known about it if it hadn't been that Francis, who is a Catholic, elected to attend services a couple of Sundays ago at Grace Episcopal Church, the church of his foster-father.

The Grace Episcopal congregation was affronted. The Rev. Victor Mori, rector of the church, much disturbed, called his wealthy parishioners about him to consider embarrassing proportions.

A neighbor hastily called Mrs. Pitts to inform her that if she knew the situation which had assumed on keeping Francis in the home, she, the neighbor, would be obliged to go to her town house in New York considerably sooner than she had planned.

Francis Kluxen was standing in the House by a small margin after passing the Senate by a large majority. It is presented in this Congress by Representative Daniel Anthony of Kansas.

Approximately half of the proceeds of the license, under the provisions of the bill, will be used for the purchase of areas suitable for bird refuges and the remainder expended for affording

them proper care and protection. R. F. Holland, vice-president of the American Game Protective Association, declares that conservation experts are united in the belief that unless refuges where no shooting is permitted are established along the lines of flight, the doom of the migratory bird is sealed and the American system of free shooting will become impossible.

"Some day," says Francis, "I hope to show them how much it all has meant to me."

By which he means that some day he hopes to be a famous mechanical engineer.

In the meantime a tutor is arriving from England to perfect him in Latin and Greek, a radio and other devices have been set up, Jap servants move over thick carpets to minister to his comfort, motor cars purr outside the door. There will be trips to Europe and quiet talks with learned men and perhaps a degree from Oxford.

And thus does life begin anew for Francis.

Just outside the city of Madison, N. J., some enterprising church has put up a sign board. "The blood of Jesus Christ, His son," it says, "cleanseth us from all sin."

NEW YORK, (AP)—National legislation which would provide finances to carry out the provisions of a treaty entered into with Great Britain several years ago to insure the protection of migratory birds, both insectivorous and game which travel between Canada and the United States, is sought by American sportsmen.

A bill sponsored last February by Senator Harry S. New now postmaster general, providing for the payment of government license at \$1 each for the privilege of hunting migratory game birds, which

was defeated in the House by a small margin after passing the Senate by a large majority. It is presented in this Congress by Representative Daniel Anthony of Kansas.

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CHICKEN AFTER DUCK. Who said anything about menus? We didn't. But if you don't think the title fits, just tell Marjorie Daw, famous movie star, who's the bold nimrod (or should it be ninny?) in the picture. She got tired of being shot at by the camera all day, and decided to do a little hunting on her own hook.

The little city of Madison revived its hate.

But Sayre went right on with his plans for adoption.

"No matter what happens," he says, "I'm with Francis. I have my independent fortune and we can live abroad if necessary."

"I've never been a society woman," says Mrs. Pitts, "and the cold looks of the neighbors don't bother me in the least."

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WOULD PROTECT MIGRATING BIRDS

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MAN, LIGHTNING EQUALLY BLAMED FOR FIRE CAUSE

SAN FRANCISCO, (AP)—Man and lightning share equal responsibility in the fact that forest fires in California were more destructive during the past year than in any other state, according to a report issued by the United States forest service here.

More fires were started in national forests of California than in any year since 1917. In a total of 1,275 fires nearly 50 per cent were attributed to lightning, the rest to human carelessness. And the man caused fires, tobacco smokers started 358, or 50 per cent, and campers 117, or 16 per cent. Railroads, brush-burners, lumbering and incendiarism accounted for the rest.

Eighty-six per cent of all the California fires in national forests were extinguished by forest rangers and their co-operators before more than 10 acres had been covered by flames. Forest officers obtained convictions against 120 violators of state and federal fire laws.

"The 'tailor-made' cigarette and

the unextinguished match continue to be the greatest enemies of our forests," said District Forester Paul G. Redington. "It is surprising also to note the number of fires started by careless campers."

"The forest service would regret exceedingly to have to issue orders restricting the public use of our national forests, which cover the greater part of the mountain regions of the state and constitute a most popular playground. But if such action is taken, the public will have only itself to blame. One thing is certain, we have to reduce the number of man-caused fires, and if educational methods fail to produce the desired results, the government is prepared to take more stringent measures."

Cary Act Lands Ready.
SALEM, Or.—The desert land board fixed the price of Cary act lands in the Tumalo project in

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Deschutes county at \$77 an acre. This land, which aggregates 2000 acres, will now be sold to actual settlers. Purchasers will not be required to pay any of the principal or interest for a period of five years.

The board approved a sale by the North Canal company for water for the irrigation of 2166 acres of land in the Powell Butte irrigation district. This land is owned by the Deschutes Valley Seed company and the Portland-Deschutes Land company.

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