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FUGITIVE PRIEST GIVES HIMSELF UP; TALKS OF TRAVELS

Alleged Forgery to Obtain Liquor for Use in Treatment of Sick.

SOCIETY PEOPLE GET IT

Priest Faces Trial in June and Ten Years in Penitentiary.

Western American Special
DENVER, COLO., April 18.—"I am Father Grace."
With these four words Walter A. Grace, pastor of the Shrine of St. Anne at Arvada, hunted by federal authorities since March 20 on a charge of wholesale forgery of liquor permits, surrendered to Assistant United States District Attorney John A. McCann on April 7 at 4 o'clock. His surrender brought to a close one of the most thorough searches by federal authorities ever conducted. Operatives of the secret service, department of justice and special agents of the bureau of internal revenue had combed the country in their search for the missing priest, while the police and Klansmen of the nation were also put on their guard.

Warrant Is Read
Following his surrender to Attorney McCann, Grace was arraigned before United States Commissioner Robert E. Foot.

The warrant for his arrest was read to him, and on being asked how he pleaded, answered in a quiet voice: "Not guilty." He waived examination and was held for the next term of the federal grand jury, which will meet at the end of May.

Commissioner Foot informed the priest that his bond was set at the customary amount, \$2500. This was immediately met by Jack Lueders of the Thomas F. Day agency, acting for the Merchants' Insurance and Bonding Company.

"I went from Denver to Washington, thence to Baltimore, from there to Philadelphia and then to Harrisburg," Grace told reporters. "In each of these places I had matters of great personal interest to attend to and spent several days in each place."

Priest Admits Telegrams
He was questioned as to the telegram from Harrisburg, Pa., received by Granby Hillier, United States district attorney in Denver, several days ago. This telegram was to the effect that Grace had just heard of the charges against him and that he was wanted in Denver. He requested also in the telegram a few days to attend to personal business. Police in Harrisburg were immediately notified to arrest the priest, but both they and the federal authorities in the East failed to locate the cleric.

"I was walking on the street with a friend," he recounted, "when my attention was called to a paragraph in the paper my companion was reading. I looked at this item, my own name immediately catching my eye. I read, to my surprise, that I was sought in Denver. Immediately I decided on my action. I went to a telegraph office and dispatched the wire of which you speak."

Bond Is Arranged
The priest added a few more details of his absence. He had waited in Harrisburg, he said, intimating he had not been visited by the police or by any government agent. He had then proceeded to Philadelphia and attended to his affairs in the Quaker City. Then he had set out for Denver to "face the music."

Declaring he was tired by his long journey, he excused himself. He said he would see J. Henry Thien, bishop of the Colorado diocese, as soon as he was informed of the dignitary's readiness to receive him. Another attempt to engage him in conversation on the subject of the offense imputed to him he turned aside with a laugh. "You can't expect me to talk on something I know very little of," he said.

After his surrender to the district attorney, he remained in McCann's office for a considerable time while bond and an alias warrant were prepared. This latter was prepared with the date April 9, 1923. When McCann was informed by the priest that he was surrendering, the United States marshal, William A. Dollison, was summoned. The new warrant was formally served on the priest.

"You are under arrest, Mr. Grace," said Marshal Dollison. Acknowledg-

ment was made by the priest with a nod of his head. On the arrival of Mr. Lueders to arrange bond, the priest was led down to the office of Robert Foot, United States commissioner.

In the commissioner's office he stood erect, a light overcoat slung on one arm. He listened gravely to the warrant against him, making serious charges, and on being asked to plead, answered steadily, "Not guilty." He was not represented by counsel.

Charges in Warrant
The warrant on which the priest was arrested and arraigned was subscribed to by J. K. Smith, special agent, bureau of internal revenue. It charged that on June 20, 1921, at Denver, Walter A. Grace did, in violation of certain statutes, "unlawfully, wilfully, knowingly, feloniously, falsely and fraudulently simulate, execute and sign a document" required under the provisions of the national prohibition act, namely a permit to purchase intoxicating liquors for other than beverage purposes.

After his arraignment the way was led to the office of United States Marshal Dollison, where the priest talked for some time with the reporters. Throughout he maintained an attitude of serenity and conversed freely with the newspaper men.

Grace was dressed in the accepted clothes of the Catholic clergy, wearing the Roman collar. He wore a soft black hat, a suit of dark tweed of excellent cut. Of excellent physical appearance, the priest manifested no anxiety on his return to the hands of the law. While awaiting the arrival of his bondsman, he chatted with McCann and Dollison, evidently at complete ease.

Priest Is Eager
From snatches of the conversation heard, it was revealed that the conversation did not have anything to do with the priest's absence. He readily acquiesced in every move suggested by either the district attorney or the marshal, displaying an eagerness to speed up the formalities before he could leave on bond.

To your reporter, Grace spoke briefly. He intimated that his statements were guarded in view of the fact that he had not yet made his return to Denver known to Bishop Thien, in charge of the Catholic clergy in the diocese of Colorado. He spoke frankly, answering occasionally that he did not wish to reply to a question until he had conferred with his ecclesiastical superior.

With regard to the charge which is preferred against him he said little. "I am quite a lot in the dark as to that," he said, "and consequently you cannot expect me to say much." To the suggestion by the reporter that the priest might come out cleared of the grave offense charged to him, "Time will tell," he answered.

Charges Are Denied
Grace denied any knowledge whatsoever of this search made by federal officers. He was in ignorance of such action, he avowed. His departure from Denver had been prepared for some days ahead, and when he left he was just following the schedule he had laid out for himself with regard to his trip to the East on personal business. "This personal business he refused to discuss.

"My time while I was away was occupied on entirely personal matters," he declared. "I had been granted a five-year leave of absence from this diocese by my superior, Bishop Thien, and I was taking advantage of this permission to absent myself to attend some matters which had been pending for some time."

He left the Postoffice building after he had been joined by Mark W. Lappan, pastor of Holy Name church, in a coachman. Before leaving he posed for photographers on the steps of the postoffice.

New Warrant Necessary
The issuance of the "alias" or new warrant today was rendered necessary owing to the fact that the original had been returned to the authorities marked "not found." The new warrant was identical with the old, save for the changing of the date to that of April 9, 1923.

The next proceeding in the case of the priest is, according to the district attorney's office, investigation by the federal grand jury, as the offense is an indictable one. In the event of an indictment, trial in the United States District Court would come off June 15, 1923. The penalty for the offense on conviction is ten years' imprisonment in the federal penitentiary.

The details of the forgery charge against Grace concern an application for liquor for the J. K. Mullen Home for the Aged.

Forgery Is Charged
It is alleged that Grace, on June 20, 1921, forged the name of Sister Germaine, mother superior of the home, to an application for a large quantity of liquor, supposedly for the treatment of the sick in the home. It is

DAVIS ENDORSES JUNIOR KNIGHTS; LOTIES ARE BUSY

Ladies of Invisible Empire Making Tremendous Progress Everywhere.

Judge R. H. Davis, Supreme Grand Counselor of the Ladies of the Invisible Empire, national headquarters at 308 Pittcock Block, Portland, returned last Sunday from instituting a strong Council at Kelso, Wash., and left at once for Eastern Oregon, having a special call to the prosperous Council at Pendleton.

Concerning the recent squabble in Atlanta over the question of a woman's organization, as a proposed Klan auxiliary, Judge Davis said: "We must all stand together in the great cause we believe in. We must maintain solidarity, in trying to better the existing conditions in our great country, and let nothing swerve us from our purpose. With confidence in each other and faith in our God, nothing can stop the onward march of our righteous cause."

"The Spokane Council of the 'LOTIE' is making splendid progress. Reports from Pennsylvania and other eastern States show the Order is spreading rapidly in that section, as in the West.

Temporary Councils were instituted at Forest Grove and Sherwood, Ore., last week, each having a brilliant future.

The Portland Council has changed its meeting place from the Pythian Temple to Redman's hall, at Ninth and Hawthorne, on the east side. Visitors, please take notice.

The "LOTIE" Councils in Louisiana are launching a movement to build a home for Protestant girls.

The GOOD CITIZEN, a sterling Protestant magazine published at Zarephat, N. J., in the March issue has a splendid article on the "LOTIE" written by Mrs. Leah E. Bell, Grand Counselor of New Jersey, New York and Delaware.

The Supreme Grand Council of the "LOTIE" has endorsed enthusiastically the proposal of Fred L. Gifford, Grand Dragon of the Klan in Oregon, to organize the Junior Knights of the Invisible Empire. It is probable the "LOTIE" soon will establish an auxiliary of its own for the Junior Ladies of the Invisible Empire. The best interests of the Protestant boys and girls thus will be conserved and safeguarded.

LOOK OUT FOR BOY, RUNAWAY "INDIAN"

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18.—After all other agencies failed, the Ku Klux Klan has taken up the task of locating Dwight William Madison, the missing 14-year-old Indian boy, who left the home of his father here several weeks ago and has not been heard from since.

His father, who is a Mason, was called by Sam F. Poindexter, King Klingle of the District of Columbia, to his office one day last week and several questions asked. As a result Mr. Poindexter issued an official communication, stating that the Klan is on the lad's trail and that if he is to be found, the Klan will find him.

Poindexter asks that anyone having news of the lad, kindly communicate with him at 801 Munsey Building, Washington, local offices of the Klan.

HORSEWHIPPED!
MACON, GA., April 11.—Mr. and Mrs. Lynwood L. Bright, divorced, Mrs. Fredericka Pace of New York, co-respondent. Mr. Bright and Mrs. Pace horsewhipped near here. Klan blamed, of course. No proof other than police "belief."

also alleged that this liquor never reached the home, but instead found its way to the homes of prominent members of society on Capitol Hill.

Assistant United States District Attorney John A. McCann issued a statement after the surrender of the priest.

"The district attorney's office appreciates the action of Mr. Grace in surrendering himself to the authorities in the manner he did and so soon after his arrival in Denver from a cross-country journey."

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