

ARSON QUARTET TO SERVE TERMS

Long List of Crimes Unearthed After Extensive Investigation by District Attorney.

SYNDICATE IS WIDESPREAD

Operations in Three States Exposed and Methods Similar to Those of Other Incendiaries—Two More to Face Charges.

Four men stood before Circuit Judge Canby yesterday morning and were sentenced to indeterminate terms of three to seven years in the Penitentiary for arson.

The men sentenced were: Sanford W. Currier, for burning his house at Saginaw Heights November 13, 1913. He will be recommended for parole at the end of one year if his behavior is good.

Mont Akeison, for burning a house at 248 Lombard street May 3, 1914. He will be recommended for parole at the end of six months if his behavior is good.

George W. Woollette, for complicity in the Lombard-street fire. He also will be recommended for parole at the end of six months on condition of good behavior.

Mordie Keeney, ex-lieutenant in the Portland Fire Department, for setting the Lombard-street fire. At the end of two years, on condition of good behavior, Judge Canby will recommend that he be paroled.

Web is Widespread. Currier was the first man arrested, and it was his arrest last August that brought to the public eye the existence of the "arson syndicate," to uncover which District Attorney Evans and his deputies had been working since April.

Currier was a contractor and builder of some standing. After he had been under arrest several days, he made a statement to the authorities in which he acknowledged his guilt, and told of his operations in Oregon and California over a period of nine years.

Several others were implicated in the confession, but most of those were outside the county and could not be found. The Oakland, Cal., authorities, however, arrested Lester Burright and his wife, with whom Currier had operated in that city.

Investigations by Fire Marshal Stevens and the District Attorney's office continued with the end in view to get other members of the Currier gang could not be located, the officers succeeded in unearthing an entirely fresh crew in Portland.

The investigation by Currier, used exactly the same methods, and, in fact, had an understanding with him, it was alleged.

Suspects Make Confessions. Keeney, an ex-lieutenant in the Fire Department and ex-tenant of Fire Marshal Stevens himself, was arrested by the fire marshal. Woollette and Akeison also were arrested and indicted and made confessions. Keeney, however, "stood pat," and it took a tedious week's trial to convict him.

The methods of the "arson syndicate" here are similar to those of an organization if the officials had no outside evidence. Most frequently houses were built to burn in the outlying districts. A small payment was made on the property. The shell of a house was put up—and then the fire occurred.

Casters, drawer handles, furniture nails and broken cut glass were strewn on the floor so that, after the fire, the insurance men could be shown that the house was fully furnished.

A certain inflammable formula was found. Turpentine, linseed oil and varnish were mixed in such proportions that it would burn with a hot blaze, a quick one, and yet have substance enough to last some time.

The causes for the fires usually ascribed were that somebody fell down stairs with a lighted lamp, foot boiled on a stove, or a cigarette caused an explosion, and similar excuses.

Convictions Total Nine. The sentence of Currier, Keeney, Woollette and Akeison makes the ninth conviction and the fifth in Oregon in Portland since June 1. The others sentenced have been William Stewart, Fred W. Castle, Ben Tanaka, Philip Harris and Earl Mashburn.

Two more remain to face charges, and both of these are women. Mrs. Mary Kennedy, implicated with Keeney, is charged in an indictment with setting fire to her house at 1553 Wilbur street October 27, 1912.

Case of Mrs. Daisy Miller, who was arrested only Monday and is awaiting preliminary hearing. She is alleged to have burned a house at 224 Thirteenth street on November 21, 1914.

Twenty-four fires, entailing losses to insurance companies of approximately \$20,000, have been positively laid at the door of the "arson syndicate" members now under sentence, and evidence in the hands of District Attorney Evans indicates that there are only a fraction of the number of fires for which the arsonists are responsible.

List of Offenses Compiled. Among those which the convicted men and women have clearly established as incendiary are the following fires:

- 1910—County line, Oakland, Cal. \$1,000
1910—June 22, Furland Station. 1,250
1910—Clark Station. 300
1910—August, Fruitvale, Cal. 300
1910—October, Fruitvale, Cal. 300
1911—San Jose, Cal. 700
1911—Manchester, Cal., Los Angeles. 2,000
1911—July, Thirty-first and Holman sts. 4,000
1912—Chehalis, Wash. 1,200
1912—April 18, Denver avenue. 1,200
1912—June, Sixty-sixth and Holman sts. 2,000
1912—June, Argente street and Kilgusworth avenue. 2,800
1912—October 27, Kirby street. 2,800
1912—October 27, Mendocino addition. 1,000
1912—October 27, 1553 Wilbur street. 2,900
Mary Kennedy to be tried.
1913—January 3, East Burnside and 400. 400
1913—February 1, St. Kinley's Park. 1,000
1913—October 28, 7001 Powell Valley road. 600
1913—November 13, Saginaw Heights. 2,300
1914—May 3, 248 Lombard street. 325
1914—August 30, Third and Beach sts. 325
1914—November 21, 224 Thirteenth st. 1,300
1915—February, Oak Park, Cal. 200
1915—August 16, 1553 Greeley street. 200
Daisy Miller to be tried.

PIONEER STEEL CHIEF HERE

F. H. Buhl, Owner of Idaho Water Project, Is on Way to Fair.

A pioneer of the steel industry in Pennsylvania, F. H. Buhl, now retired, was a Portland visitor yesterday, traveling with a party in a private car en route to California. For almost half a century, Mr. Buhl was an ironmaster in

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Not Only Language but Other Objectionable Features in Seamen's Bill Blamed.

REPLY GIVEN MR. REDFIELD

Chairman of Southern Pacific Declares Other Provisions Helped Toward Discontinuance of Pacific Service.

It was not the language provision in the seamen's bill alone that forced the Southern Pacific Company to withdraw its Pacific Mail fleet from service across the Pacific, but numerous other objectionable features in the measure that work equal hardships upon vessel owners, says Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific, in a communication to Secretary Redfield, of the Department of Commerce, yesterday.

Copies of Mr. Kruttschnitt's letter, which was sent in reply to a recent communication on the subject from Secretary Redfield, were received at Southern Pacific headquarters in Portland yesterday by telegraph.

The text of the letter follows: "I have read your letter to me of November 5.

The reasons why the Pacific Mail could not continue to operate its trans-Pacific ships if the seamen's bill became a law have been given to committees of Congress in detail with supporting figures which have never been answered.

Objections Summed Up in Letter. In a letter to President Wilson, July 4, 1914, I summarized the objections to the proposed legislation and gave notice that it would result in the withdrawal of the trans-Pacific ships.

After a careful review of the subject, you refer to a reported dinner-table discussion in December, 1913, between the Surveyor of Customs at San Francisco and Dr. Schwerin (which, however, differs so much from the latter's opinions as expressed to me as to raise grave doubts as to the accuracy of the reporter's memory).

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Makes Stubborn Coughs Vanish in a Hurry

Surprisingly Good Cough Syrup Easily and Cheaply Made at Home

If some one in your family has an obstinate cough or is laid throat or chest cold that has been hanging on and refuses to yield to treatment, get from any drug store 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex, and make it into a pint of cough syrup, and watch that cough vanish.

Pour the 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex (50 cents worth) into a pint bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. The total cost is about 54 cents, and gives you a full pint—a family supply—a most effective remedy, at a saving of \$2. A day's use will usually overcome a hard cough. Easily prepared in 15 minutes—full directions with Pinex. Keeps perfect and has a pleasant taste. Children like it.

It's really remarkable how promptly and easily it loosens the dry, hoarse or tight cough, and the inflamed membranes in a painful cough. It also stops the formation of phlegm in the throat and bronchial tubes, thus ending the persistent, loose cough, a splendid remedy for bronchitis, winter coughs, bronchial asthma and whooping cough.

Pinex is a special and highly concentrated compound of genuine Norway pine extract, rich in guaiaic, which is so healing to the membranes.

Avoid disappointment by asking your druggist for "2 1/2 ounces of Pinex," and do not accept anything else. A guarantee of absolute satisfaction goes with this preparation or money promptly refunded. The Pinex Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

ships from the Pacific. As these gentlemen know or feel, either to conceal or not to know, however, and not the seaman's act and not the seaman's act was the real cause for withdrawal?

I have your complaint because the Pacific Mail did not wait to see how you would construe away the serious provisions of the law. The law speaks for itself, the men who advocated it and the men who made it worded it so as to carry out their intention to effect a change in existing conditions. The Seamen's Union worked strenuously to get the bill passed and in view of Let us see what they sought:

Senators Are Quoted. In the hearings held before the committee on merchant marine and fisheries of December 12, 1911, Mr. McArthur, editor of the Coast Seaman's Journal, says: "This bill is designed to get rid of these aliens in tongue, color, instinct, and everything else and to replace them with Americans." P. 21. "But the purpose of this bill is to prevent the shipment of Chinese crews on American vessels." P. 20.

Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union, says: "A vessel that has that kind of a crew (Chinese) is so utterly unworthy that she is not only a danger to herself, but to every class of vessel that she meets." P. 20.

"This the Legislators' Congressional records, proceedings October 2 to 25, 1913." Senator Fletcher—I think that the provisions in section 12 of the proposed substitute requiring 75 per cent of the crew in each department to understand the orders of the officers is not so much intended to promote safety at sea as it is to affect the employment of Asiatic seamen on the Pacific.

Senator Burton—The committee thought that the adoption of the provision as it stands in the substitute would drive our flag out of the trans-Pacific trade. What would be the result of adoption of this provision? The six boats engaged in business on the Pacific so shut would be forced to withdraw. P. 25.

Referring to the language text section: The law requires the collection of customs upon the sworn complaint of any reputable citizen that the section is not complied with (which may be made at any time up to six hours before the departure of the vessel) to cause the matter of the crew to determine the fact. You are powerless to change the law or to control the action of members of a seaman's Union, who are all "repatriable citizens."

It is easy, however, when the lines of the Pacific Ocean have ceased to be, to give instructions which apparently take the teeth out of the law.

Perchance you have not read opinions of

THE STYLISH OVERCOAT Varsity Six Hundred follows the lines of the natural figure ATHLETIC young men will be glad of it; but others needn't worry. Hart Schaffner and Marx designers know how to adapt an overcoat to any figure: it's all in the draping; they've done it artistically and we're ready to fit every one of you at \$16.50 and up. Varsity Fifty Five Suits At \$20.00 and up. SAM'L ROSENBLATT & CO. The Men's Shop for Quality and Service. Our Temporary Location 266 Morrison St., bet. 3d and 4th.

Everybody Says That THE ELECTRO PAINLESS DENTISTS WILL DO IT FOR LESS With a 15-year guarantee. Why not save money on your dental bill these hard times? Come in and let us examine your teeth and give you an estimate free. Open Day and Night ELECTRO PAINLESS DENTISTS 2-Story Bldg. Sixth and Washington Sts. Ady. HEADACHE FROM A COLD? LISTEN! "Pape's Cold Compound" Ends Severe Colds or Grippe in Few Hours. Your cold will break and all grippiness end after taking a dose of "Pape's Cold Compound," every two hours until three doses are taken. It promptly opens clogged-up nostrils and air passages in the head, stops nasty discharge or nose running, relieves sick headache, dizziness, feverishness, sore throat, sneezing, soreness and stiffness. Don't stay stuffed-up! Quit blowing and snuffing! Ease your throbbing head—nothing else in the world gives such prompt relief as "Pape's Cold Compound," which costs only 25 cents at any drug store. It acts without assistance, tastes nice, and causes no inconvenience. Accept no substitute—Adv. WALLA WALLA Road Body Is Named. WALLA WALLA, Wash., Nov. 8.—(Special)—The committee to view the proposed Elgin-Walla Walla auto road was named today by President Paul H. Weyrauch, of the Blue Mountain Good Roads' Association. This committee, S. E. Harris, C. A. Galloway and O. E. Ryder, all of Elgin, is to view the routes proposed on the Elgin side. Three routes have been discussed. The road to the summit on this side will be selected by Walla Walla and Milton people. It is planned to have the survey completed before winter sets in. ROSEBURG Germans Now Citizens. ROSEBURG, Or., Nov. 8.—(Special)—In the Circuit Court here five former citizens of Germany were admitted to citizenship. They were: Dr. Henry Little, of Oakland; Charles Henry Van de Vord, of Brockway; Martin Martens,

Christmas is a real Christmas with a Victrola in the home. There are Victors and Victrolas in great variety of styles from \$10 to \$350, and any Victor dealer will gladly demonstrate them to you. Victor Talking Machine Co. Camden, N. J. START TODAY to arrange for the delivery of a Victrola to your home on Christmas. There is no gift that means so much to the whole family or that will give so much pleasure to all. Each Christmas time finds the number of Victrolas insufficient to supply the great demand. Just now our stock is most complete in the various styles and woods. Call or send in coupon. LET US SET ASIDE YOUR CHRISTMAS VICTROLA NOW—WE'LL ARRANGE TERMS AND TIME OF DELIVERY TO SUIT YOU. The Wiley B. Allen Co. Morrison Street at Broadway Portland OTHER STORES—San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Los Angeles, San Diego and Other Coast Cities. K 110.0