



NOTORIOUS ROBBER IS ELECTROCUTED

Gordon Fawcett Hamby Executed at Sing Sing.

COMPOSURE IS REMARKABLE

Criminal Record Reaches From Pacific to Atlantic.

MESSAGE LEFT TO YOUTH

"Never Start Doing Wrong," Is Advice Given by Murderer and Train Brigand.

OSISING, N. Y., Jan. 29.—Gordon Fawcett Hamby, murderer, bank robber and train brigand, whose crime record reached from coast to coast, and culminated in the murder of two Brooklyn bank employees in December, 1918, was electrocuted in Sing Sing prison tonight.

Hamby maintained to the last the iron composure which marked his demeanor from the hour of his arrest in Tacoma, Wash., last June. He refused the offer of the Protestant and Roman Catholic chaplains to accompany him to the chair, and walked to his death unaided and with a firm step. After he had seated himself he turned to William Lawrence, who had permission to make a statement. In a clear voice which betrayed not the slightest emotion he said:

"I want to say that anyone who had the misfortune, for indeed it was a misfortune, to come in front of Jay B. Allan's gun, had a chance and a good chance. That's all. Go ahead, boys."

From the time of his trial Hamby had insisted that his right name was Jay B. Allan.

Hamby spent his last day in the death house writing letters in his cell, reading newspapers and "talking" with the outis. He expressed relief when he learned that the eleventh-hour effort to get Governor Smith to give him a reprieve had failed.

MESSAGE LEFT TO YOUTH

When asked what he wanted for supper, Hamby ordered lobster salad, of which he ate heartily. He then proceeded to enjoy cigars and candy.

Father William E. Cashin, the Roman Catholic chaplain, this afternoon spent a half-hour with the condemned man, who did not actually refuse spiritual consolation, but requested the priest and Rev. Dr. A. N. Peterson, the Protestant chaplain, not to accompany him in his walk to the chair.

When asked by Father Cashin if he had any message for the youth of the country, Hamby said: "I don't wish to appear in the light of a moralist, but you can tell them for me never to start doing wrong. Once you get started in crime you can never stop."

Gordon Fawcett Hamby, the highwayman who today expiated his crimes in the death chair, was arrested in Tacoma, Wash., last June under the name of "Jay B. Allan," after killing a man there in a revolver fight. He was later identified as one of the Iwo robbers who, on December 23, 1918, held up the East Brooklyn Savings bank and, after killing two of its employees, escaped in an automobile with \$13,000.

Many Crimes Confessed

Extradited to New York and tried for this crime, Hamby stood revealed as a self-confessed participant in the robbery of 13 banks and two trains and many killings. He steadfastly refused to tell anything about his family. He said he preferred to be known as "Allan" and that he was born in 1893 in Alberta, Canada. He declared his parents were dead and that he had two brothers whom he had not seen for five years. He said he was a college graduate and had specialized in psychology.

After Hamby's conviction here his attorney, against the prisoner's wishes, appealed his case. He obtained the appointment of a commission to determine the bandit's sanity, but the higher court affirmed the verdict and he was also found to be "normal." He freely admitted his crimes and said he was wanted in Chicago, San Francisco and other places. After the Brooklyn robbery Hamby said he met a girl in New York and that they went successively to Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Chicago, California and Tacoma.

"I was surprised that the California police did not get me," he said, shortly after being brought east. "Then in Tacoma I got in that political row with 'Bob' Davis and killed him. 'Bob' was a game fellow and I'm sorry I shot him, but I was afraid he was going to get me. After that I was all ready to beat it to Shanghai, China, and now here I am."

Brooklyn 'Job' Bungled.

"I expected to get \$50,000 out of the Brooklyn 'job,'" he confided, "and I was greatly disappointed at the little we did get. This was because my partner did not carry out my instructions. I had ordered him to jump over the rail the minute we entered the place, but he was an amateur and wasted too much time. It took him about four minutes to pick up what

\$400,000 OFFER FOR ELKS HOME ACCEPTED

LOGGE AUTHORIZES TRUSTEES TO MAKE TRANSFER.

United States National Bank to Assume Leases—New Clubhouse Site Not Yet Selected.

Membership of Portland Lodge No. 142, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, last night took the first step towards acquiring a new home in Portland, by authorizing the trustees of the lodge to accept the offer made by the United States National bank for the purchase of the Elks' lot and building at Broadway and Stark street.

The purchase price is \$400,000, with an agreement under which purchaser assumes all existing leases and also agrees to rent to Portland lodge for two years the quarters now utilized by the lodge for club and lodge rooms. Thus the lodge may occupy the present quarters, if it so desires, for a period of two years.

The question of a new building site was not finally determined at the meeting last night. The committee of ten men appointed by Exalted Ruler J. J. Berg reported on three propositions made to the lodge for building sites.

The proposition which had the in-gorsement of the majority of this committee was an offer of property owned by Simon S. Benson located on Broadway between Salmon and Main streets. This site has been offered to the lodge for \$150,000.

The sale of the present home of Portland lodge of Elks absolutely insures a new building for the organization. It is probable that definite decision on the building site will be reached within 30 days.

AIR BILL SUFFERS JOLT

Proposal to Make Director Member of Cabinet Loses.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The new independent air department bill offered its first serious alteration in the senate today when the proposal to make the director of the service a cabinet officer was eliminated on motion of Senator Smoot, republican, of Utah. A second amendment by the Utah senator, reducing the director's salary from \$12,000 to \$8000 a year, failed of action for lack of a quorum. Sharp opposition to the bill developed during the debate. Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, contended it would increase air service expenditures and Senator Gerry, democrat, Rhode Island, asserted that it would foster red tape, while Chairman Wadsworth of the military committee, who reported the measure, argued that it would increase efficiency and cut expenditures from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 a year on the separate air service.

U. S. GETS BRITISH FLAG

Colonel Carl Abrams, Salem, Honored in Presentation Ceremony.

WINCHESTER, Va., Jan. 29.—Formal presentation was made tonight of the original Guild Hall flag of Winchester, England, to its namesake, Winchester, Va., as an expression of the enduring amity and good will of the people of the ancient English municipality towards the hundreds of thousands of Americans who passed through the city on their overseas journey to the American expeditionary forces in France. The presentation was made by Major-General Bethell, commander in chief of the British embassy in Washington.

The flag was brought from Winchester, England, by Colonel Carl Abrams of Salem, Or., to whom it was entrusted on the occasion of a formal ceremony on July 4, 1918.

JUROR MADE TO AGREE

Mob Treatment Causes Farmer to Find Negro Slayer Guilty.

MONROE, La., Jan. 29.—Because a juror failed to agree to a verdict of guilty in the case of Alvin Calhoun, negro, alleged confessed slayer of N. E. Arnold, a young white farmer, a mob publicly whipped the recalcitrant juror and then dipped him in a mudhole, said reports reaching here tonight from Tallulah, where the trial was held.

After his chastisement the report said, the mud-covered juror returned to the jury room and agreed to a verdict of murder in the first degree. He then was ordered to leave town by a delegation of citizens.

PEACE SIGNED BY SOVIET

Terms With Letvia Expected to Follow Estonian Agreement.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 29.—A peace treaty between Estonia and soviet Russia was to be signed today, according to a Reval dispatch to the Politiken.

The Berlingske Tidende's Helsinki correspondent says the signing of peace between Letvia and soviet Russia is expected in a few days.

GIRLS GET SMOKING ROOM

Chicago Theater Manager Explains "Women Drove Him to It."

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—A Chicago theater today announced it had opened a smoking room for women. The manager said the "women drove him to it." He said he found girls were smoking in the washroom, the boudoir and even in the lobby.

The women smoke more cigarettes than the men, the manager said.

COPRA INDUSTRY IS TO BE KEPT HERE

Business Men, Bankers, Agree on Plan.

CORPORATION TO BE FORMED

Removal of Palmolive Plant to Be Compensated For.

PORTLANDERS HOLD STOCK

Company May Be Asked to Redeem at Par Shares Now Held by Portland Investors.

Portland will continue in the copra oil pressing and refining business, notwithstanding the impending loss of the Pacific coast plant of the Palmolive company. This was decided at a conference of leading business men and financiers who met yesterday afternoon at the green room of the Chamber of Commerce, pursuant to the plan of that company from the tentative plan outlined and which it is proposed to have carried to completion in a few days contemplates the formation of a new corporation with capitalization of \$750,000 provided.

Plans Are Stated.

The exact details as to the method of financing is yet to be perfected, but it will provide a fund of the amount stated, common and preferred stock, the latter eventually to be retired. Subscriptions to the capital of the plant of that company from this city it should be asked to redeem that stock at par in order that the capital shall be invested in the new plant.

Field Is Large.

That there is a field for this industry, with a stable market demand for the product, is demonstrated by numerous successful plants in various localities, and the experience of the Portland plant has proved the desirability of this location. The business men recognize the importance of the continuation of the industry here as furnishing return cargo for ships that take lumber to the ports of the Dutch East Indies. It presents an advantageous traffic condition for the movement both of the copra, from which the oil is pressed, and of lumber that is shipped in such large quantities from the Columbia river district.

It is estimated that the investment to be made will be approximately \$400,000 in land and dock facilities, \$150,000 in machinery and \$200,000 in buildings and storage, with approximately \$250,000 working capital. Portland investors have on two different occasions financed preferred stock issues, each of \$40,000, in the Palmolive plant and its predecessors, so that there is outstanding this \$300,000 that was entirely taken here.

Portland Holdings Larger.

Other issues of preferred stock of the corporation that have been floated throughout the country have also found some local investors, so that the Portland holdings in the company that has decided to build its new plant at Oakland is probably considerably larger than here.

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WAR INSURANCE CAN NOW BE REINSTATED

ONLY 2 PREMIUMS REQUIRED UNDER SWEET BILL.

Converted Policies Are Payable in Lump at Death—Beneficiary Group Is Enlarged.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Ex-service men may reinstate their war risk term insurance at any time before July 1, 1920, under a new ruling of the bureau of war risk insurance, announced today by Director Cholmely-Jones.

Applicants will be reinstated regardless of how long their policies have lapsed, or how long the ex-service men have been discharged, provided two monthly premiums accompany the application, and the applicant is in as good health as when his policy was issued.

The bureau issued the following statement:

"The new ruling is the most important liberalization of war risk insurance since the passage of the Sweet bill and is designed for the special benefit of service men who failed to reinstate their insurance prior to the new law and who have been discharged more than 18 months. Men who have been discharged less than 18 months still may reinstate their lapsed term insurance at any time within 18 months following the month of discharge by complying with the same conditions.

"In announcing the new ruling Director Cholmely-Jones desires to emphasize the fact that the war risk term insurance may now be made payable to any of the following new and enlarged group of beneficiaries: Parent, grandparent, step-parent, wife (or husband), child, stepchild, adopted child, grandchild, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, brother through adoption, sister through adoption, stepbrother, step-sister, nephew, niece, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, persons who have stood in the relation of a parent to the insured for a period of one year or more prior to his enlistment or induction, or the child or children of such persons, parent, grandparent, step-parent, or parent through adoption of the insured's wife or husband.

"War risk term insurance may now be converted into United States government insurance at any time within five years after the end of the war.

"Converted insurance may now be paid in a lump sum at death, if such method of payment is designated by the insured."

"STILL" SOURCE FOUND

New Yorkers Get Them by Parcel Post From Binghamton.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The widespread distribution of "kitchen stills" with which many New Yorkers are reported to be making "moonshine" beverages at home, has been traced to Binghamton, where a prohibition agents declared here tonight.

They said the stills, which are crudely made of tin pans, were delivered by parcel post.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

On and after Sunday, February 1, 1920, the price of the Sunday Oregonian will be 10c for all copies sold on the streets, news-stands, trains, through agents or delivered by carrier.

The price of the Daily and Sunday delivered to one address by carrier, through agents or by mail remains the same, 75c per month.

Chimney Monoplists Fined.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—Brick chimney constructors from various parts of the country were fined in federal court today a total of \$18,225 for combination in restraint of trade.

MILWAUKIE TEACHERS DENY STRIKE INTENT

MEMBERS OF SCHOOL BOARD CONFER ON SALARIES.

Increase Will Be Granted if Legal Opinion Is Favorable; Teachers Hear Explanation.

There is to be no strike of the two principals of the high and grade schools of Milwaukee, neither of the 17 teachers, all of whom are women, according to statements made to members of the school board of the district at a special meeting held last night for the purpose of making a report on proposed salary increases sought by the staff. No definite action was taken because the directors had asked an Oregon City attorney for legal advice which was not forthcoming up to the hour of the session.

The advice sought by the directors is as to whether they may legally contract for the expenditure of funds not yet within the treasury, as would be the case were they to grant immediate increases to the teachers, according to an explanation made by Mrs. P. W. Wisinger, C. M. Fisch and F. W. Birkemeier, comprising the board, and by A. H. Zanders, clerk. No special indications of strong hostility appeared at the meeting, although some of the teachers made inquiry of the board at first in rather sharp tones as to the why and wherefore of the delay in granting raises voted by taxpayers at a recent meeting.

That there never was any thought on the part of the teachers of going on a strike was asserted by Mrs. Emily Shaw, principal of the grade school. It is not the striking kind of teacher," volunteered Mrs. Shaw when this subject was brought up.

"We never thought of such a thing," chorused the long row of young women teachers.

This seemed to relieve the tension which up to that time had been apparent and later there was frank, detailed discussion between teachers and directors, ending in a virtual agreement that, should the legal advice be favorable, the board will grant an increase, to be paid in the form of a bonus when funds are available, which will be in May or June.

"I am sorry that the board cannot tell you tonight that you are to be granted an increase," was the opening statement of Mrs. Wisinger, president of the board, who presided. She, as the other directors, expressed a willingness to take favorable action, but all insisted they must first have legal advice as to their authority.

"If we voice this money to you and any taxpayer questioned our authority, a court might hold that the directors, personally, must pay it," commented Director Fisch.

"Yes," laughed Mrs. Wisinger, "and my husband has already warned me that in such case I shall have to take in washing to pay it."

"But, Mrs. Wisinger," spoke up one of the young women teachers, "if you were to take in washing, you would get \$6 a day, as against we teachers' \$5," and again there was laughter.

The present minimum salary in the Milwaukee grades is \$80 per month and that of the high school \$100. A recent election held in the high school building voted funds for a straight \$25 increase per employe. However, it is pointed out by the directors, the money does not come in until May or June and meanwhile they feel they must have absolute assurance of their legal right to issue formal orders for payment.

"Public ownership of all public utilities that are monopolistic in character and based upon special privileges.

"The establishment of governmental and state fire, accident and fire insurance similar to the soldiers' and sailors' insurance now in practice, to be provided for by the state."

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

THIRD PARTY IN OREGON IS URGED

Land, Labor Delegates Convene in Salem.

'REDEMPTION OF STATE' AIM

Radical Changes in Existing Laws Are Advocated.

FARMERS, WORKERS SPEAK

Self-Assessed Property Tax, Single Commission Control, Voting by Mail, Proposed.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 29.—(Special.)—Addresses criticizing the present political parties and urging the farmers and workers to join in one great movement for the "regeneration and purification" of the Oregon system, featured the first day's session of the convention opening here today for the consideration of a new state-wide organization to be known as the "United Land and Labor Party."

Otto Hartwig, president of the State Federation of Labor, was elected permanent chairman of the convention, and 81 delegates from almost every section of Oregon were seated by the committee on membership.

The tentative platform of the proposed new organization was outlined by Frank Coulter, a Portland machinist and alleged political reformer, who declared that the present party lines in Oregon were so tightly drawn that equality and justice were barred, and that it remained for the farmers and workers to amalgamate their interests and redeem the state from its seemingly unsatisfactory condition.

Dakota League Cited.

The non-partisan program, Mr. Coulter said, had worked wonders for the redemption of Dakota, and the time had arrived when Oregon should be made a real democratic state, free from political bossism and protection.

The tentative platform, subject to the ratification of the convention, was then presented by Mr. Coulter, as follows:

Educational—"We announce the fact that the system and practice of our educational institutions is borrowed bodily from Germany and its inevitable drift is toward the destruction of personal initiative and into the field of aristocracy and special privilege.

"We therefore demand that the schools be placed upon a real democratic basis by making school boards really representative through proportional representation, and that the object of the schools be to teach democracy itself rather than the idea to train children to be servers of others for profit."

Economic—"The abolition of all taxes on the products of labor and the raising of all revenues from the community made values in land and other natural resources.

Utility Ownership Advocated.

"Public ownership of all public utilities that are monopolistic in character and based upon special privileges.

"The establishment of governmental and state fire, accident and fire insurance similar to the soldiers' and sailors' insurance now in practice, to be provided for by the state."

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

WEST'S BONDING PLAN OPPOSED BY GLASS

M'NARY RECLAMATION MEASURE GETS SETBACK.

Secretary of Treasury Advises Direct Appropriation; Non-Taxable Feature Also Disapproved.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 29.—(Special.)—Disapproval of the bonding plan for obtaining a fund of \$250,000,000 for reclamation in the west was communicated to Senator McNary today by Carter Glass, secretary of the treasury. The plan, which was carried in the McNary bill, was worked out at the recent conference of western governors in this city, headed by Governor Davis of Idaho. Secretary Glass' letter was addressed to Senator McNary as chairman of the senate committee on irrigation, and said:

"I regret to have to advise the committee that the treasury emphatically disapproves of the financial and bonding features of your bill. I urge your committee very strongly that, if it should be determined that the plans provided in the bill are meritorious and appropriate to handle the same, it be recommended that it be done by making a direct appropriation of a specification for the purpose, leaving the secretary of the treasury to act under the general authority conferred upon him by congress, free to finance the requirements of the plan from time to time as might be found expedient."

The provision that the bonds issued under the plan should be non-taxable also is disapproved by the secretary, who says that would be contrary to the best judgment of the treasury department arrived at during the progress of the liberty loans.

Secretary Glass' letter is a serious setback to the plan because the bonding scheme was contrived to avoid presenting to congress the proposal of a direct appropriation.

VETERAN'S CAR DAMAGED

Legion Man at Montesano Finds Spike in Mechanism.

MONTESANO, Wash., Jan. 29.—(Special.)—For the first time since the I. W. W. murder trial opened here factional neutrality has been fractured by an overt act. Machinists will mollify with broken, battered differential cogs of F. R. Vangilder's automobile.

Tonight Vangilder, who heads the American Legion delegation here as an ex-service lieutenant and representative of the "centrals" point, essayed to start his car. This caused a smashing clatter and the automobile failed to answer the wheel.

When Vangilder inspected the inner mechanism, probing with a flashlight, he drew from the mesh of broken cogs a bridge spike.

The car had been parked on a side street all day.

CHIEF OF POLICE IS ILL

Smallpox Affliction Not Serious Enough to Cause Alarm.

Diagnosis of the illness of Chief of Police Jenkins, who has been at his home at 541 Marguerite avenue for several days, yesterday disclosed that he is suffering with smallpox. His condition is satisfactory, and not such as to cause any alarm, it was reported.

During the chief's absence John Clark, chief of detectives, will serve as head of the department.

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VENUS, NOT MARS, THOUGHT CALLING

Scientist Comments on Mysterious Signals.

WAR PLANET HELD LIFELESS

Message From Venus Believed More Likely.

EARTH CONDITIONS SHOWN

Washington Astronomer Says There Is Reason for Belief Warmer Planet Is Inhabited.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—If wireless messages are being received on the earth from some other planet, as suggested by William Marconi, it is not Mars sending the signals, but most probably Venus, says Dr. C. G. Abbott, director of the Smithsonian astronomical observatory and assistant secretary of the Smithsonian institution.

Dr. Abbott makes no claim that the mysterious wireless signals do come from another planet, but says if they do Mars is eliminated as a possibility because known conditions on that planet probably would not permit the existence of any form of living creatures.

"In the first place," says Dr. Abbott, "on account of the greater distance, nearly two and one-half times less radiation from the sun reaches Mars than reaches the earth. It is probably nearly 100 per cent colder on the average on that distant planet than on the earth. Knowing what low temperatures occur in this earth in the course of the winter season, it will readily be realized what 100 degrees colder would mean. In the second place, even if any form of life could withstand that degree of cold, it is definitely known by the investigations of Director Campbell of Lick observatory that there is practically no water vapor in the atmosphere surrounding Mars, which fact crosses out the possibility of that planet's supporting any vegetation or other form of life. The 'polar caps' which are seen on Mars may be either hoar frost from the minute traces of water vapor in the Martian atmosphere, or what is quite as probable, carbonic acid gas. The so-called 'canals' of Mars are non-existent except as indefinite markings according to such telescopic observers as Barnard, Hale and others who have observed with great telescopes under well-nigh perfect conditions."

Life Declared Impossible.

"But, it is objected, there may be other strange forms of beings which need no water or oxygen or heat. This is also reduced to impossibility by the fact that all living things are made up largely of different compounds of carbon. While the stellar spectrum shows that there is carbon on all heavenly bodies, the chemical combinations of this element, such as are required for life, mostly require temperatures above freezing to prevent rigidity. So the extremely low temperatures on Mars, probably never higher than zero, would not allow the carbon compounds to exist in a condition suitable for originating life."

"The planet Venus, on the other hand, shows every condition necessary for maintaining life. It is nearly the same size as the earth and is even nearer the sun than the earth is. This would apparently make the climate considerably hotter on Venus, except for the fact that the atmosphere surrounding Venus is continually cloudy. This universal cloudiness, which reflects the radiation from the sun, reduces the temperature to about the same range as that experienced here on the earth. This cloudiness also shows a sufficient amount of water vapor to support vegetation and higher forms of life on the planet Venus."

Life on Venus Probable.

"As regards the possibility of receiving wireless messages from another planet, Venus at its nearest approach to the earth is 25,000,000 miles away, whereas Mars is at least 50,000,000 miles away.

"From these considerations, it may be concluded that if any planet is trying to signal our earth it is Venus, and not Mars. It can be definitely proved that Mars is unsuited for maintaining any form of life, while with the conditions prevailing on Venus there is every reason to believe that the planet may be populated by beings fairly similar to ourselves."

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