

NAVY OFFICER HELD FOR DEATH OF WIFE

Dead Woman, Mrs. T. F. Flash, Formerly of Portland.

AUTOPSY IS PERFORMED

Surgeons Declare Criminal Operation Done, but Husband Denies Knowledge of Deed.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Aug. 11.—T. F. Flash, chief pharmacist's mate of the U. S. S. Prairie, who was arrested last night and confessed to burying his wife in a shallow grave in Mission valley nearly two months ago, will be formally charged with murder, Chief of Police James Patrick stated today.

Flash today reiterated his story of last night, saying that his wife died in convulsions and that the reason he buried her in Mission valley was because he was too poor to afford a funeral. In company with police officers, he today visited the site of the grave and showed the officers where he had hidden the shovel with which he had dug the grave.

Operation Declared Criminal.

An autopsy was declared by the surgeons to have showed the woman died as the result of a criminal operation. Flash, however, persists in his denial that he is responsible for the woman's death and insists he knows nothing of an operation.

Identification of the nude body as that of Mrs. Flash solved the death mystery which the police of Los Angeles and San Diego have been seeking to unravel since July 17.

According to the navy petty officer who was arrested in San Diego in company with Mrs. Gladys Fox, 16 years old, he wrapped the body of his wife in a sheet and blanket and drove to Point Loma and later to Mission valley where he dug a shallow grave and buried her. He could not account for his action in seeking to remove all identification marks from the wrapping. A laundry mark overlooked by Flash resulted in the identification of the body.

Laundry Mark Traced.

On July 17 the body of a woman was found buried in the sand in Mission valley. It was clothed in bed sheets, a suit of pajamas and the woman's overcoat. All laundry and other identification marks were cut from the sheets and clothing with the exception of one small one in the corner of the pajama jacket. With this as a clue, the police traced Flash's laundry and located him.

He has been residing ashore and was arrested in the same house where he lived with his wife.

"I did not murder my wife," he said, "she gave an outcry during the night and I found her convulsing. She died before I could summon a doctor. As I had no money to pay for a funeral, I tried a ruse the next day and buried her body in the sand in Mission valley."

Mrs. Flash was the daughter of Mrs. E. W. Riner, 55 North Twentieth street, Portland, Or. Flash said they were married in San Francisco in 1917. He has been in the navy for 11 years.

FAITH EXPRESSED IN FLASH

Parents of Dead Woman Confident Her Husband Is Not Slayer.

News of the identification of a body found in a grave near San Diego as that of their daughter, Mrs. Edna May Flash, came yesterday as a shock to Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Riner, 55 North Twentieth street, parents of the young woman. Mr. and Mrs. Riner had been expecting their daughter's arrival in Portland almost daily.

Despite the suspicion that has been cast over the dead woman's husband, Chief Pharmacist's Mate T. F. Flash of the United States steamship Prairie, Mr. and Mrs. Riner feel confident that he is not the slayer of their daughter.

"Although I have never seen Flash myself, Mrs. Riner visited with them at San Diego last March and was very favorably impressed with the young man," Mr. Riner said yesterday. "Mrs. Riner is confident that he did not cause our daughter's death, and my wife is a good judge of human nature. Hence I am willing to believe by her judgment until further disclosures prove otherwise."

"It is possible that Edna underwent an operation of some character in which her husband assisted, and that she died during the operation. Then, according to the theory I have thought out, he must have buried her to escape trouble because of the operation. But we feel certain he did not kill her. They were too happy to have such a thing as that happen."

Mr. Riner said that Flash has been writing to Mrs. Riner and himself frequently, telling them of their daughter's supposed illness. It was only about a week ago, he said, that Flash shipped their daughter's trunk to Portland, containing all her clothes.

"He sent us word directing us to open the trunk and take out her things," he said. "He also said that he expected to come north with his ship in a short time and that Edna would come on to Portland for an extended visit with us."

"At first he wrote his letters with a pencil, but during the last few weeks he has been using a pen. In every letter he spoke of Edna in endearing terms, and, frankly, the whole affair, letters and all, is so confusing that I do not know just what to think."

Mr. Riner said that, according to information received by him, the grave containing his daughter's body was found near San Diego about a month ago. The body was nude except for a heavy blanket in which it was wrapped. By tracing a laundry mark on the blanket the San Diego officials finally traced it to the naval vessel Prairie and then to Flash. It was then Flash was taken into custody.

Mrs. Flash was 38 years old, the father said, and was born in Portland. She had been married once before and a son, aged 14, by the former marriage. Is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Riner. The daughter was married to Flash four years ago.

PONZI CASE SENSATIONAL

(Continued From First Page.)

that society owed me another chance. "I am not the first man to be convicted of a crime. I do not see others who were under the same situation years ago and now today occupy prominent positions. I do not see why I should become the object of persecution on the part of the authorities, press and the public."

Respect Held Deserved.

"Charles W. Morse, at one time a prominent banker, was also convicted in United States courts and sentenced to 15 years in Atlanta, Ga. I know, because I was there with him. He

was released after serving a very small part of his sentence. He has been now occupying for years a position still greater than before. "I do not mean in any way to imply that he is not deserving respect of the public, but I merely ask, if he is deserving why shouldn't I be?"

"Montreal records show that a man of my description was convicted of forgery in 1908, and sent for three years to St. Vincent de Paul and served about 20 months. "I feel that it is very important for the people to know, that although I am the man who was convicted and sentenced for that crime, I am not the man who perpetrated the crime. What is occurring today to me happened then in Montreal, the only difference being the object of persecution was my employer.

Employer Declared Shielded.
"A man apparently friendly to him suggested that he leave Canada, the object of the man being to appropriate during his absence all the assets left by the fugitive banker. In order to be sure he wouldn't come back to demand an accounting, he compelled him to forge certain instruments which he was going to hold as a shield over his head. I was present at the transaction. "When it developed later that the man could not gain possession of the assets, revenge or other motives prompted him to demand the return from Mexico to Montreal of my employer under extradition proceedings on a charge of forgery.

"I feel indignant, as any other man would feel under the circumstances, and I decided that I would save my employer's name regardless of cost or consequences. When he was brought to Montreal I exonerated him by assuming all the blame.

"The illusion made by me to reporters that I went to Canada to carry on an investigation for the Italian government is immaterial, although it could explain why I assumed a name.

Innocence Is Protested.
"My next unfortunate incident did not come of my own volition, but happened as a consequence of my first mistake. Released from prison without a friend and without a dollar, I tried to earn a living the best I could. Within ten days I was asked to escort five Italians into the United States. I did not smuggle them in. I crossed the border openly and was placed immediately under arrest. "I didn't dodge the consequences and pleaded guilty. I expected leniency. I didn't resist a conviction and yet I was sentenced to two years in federal prison in Atlanta, Ga., and my sentence was a maximum.

"As I said before, I aimed and paid for it. When the time came I made a clean breast of it. Is this enough?" The Hanover Trust company was a depository of the Securities Exchange company. Ponzi became a shareholder and was made a director. His deposits made under the name of Luigi Martelli, trustee, had been considerable, when recently they were augmented by withdrawals from other banks. Ponzi throughout a run paid all notes due and many others that were not.

The run ended last week when Ponzi declared he still had abundant resources.

Bank Ordered Closed.
Toward the end he had been paying with checks drawn on the Hanover Trust company Monday Bank Commissioner Allen notified the bank not to honor any more checks. The commissioner said that the account was overdrawn. It was admitted that the trust company held a certificate of deposit from Ponzi of \$1,500,000.

The examiner explained this could not be drawn against or withdrawn except after 30 days' notice. The bank closed at 1:45 o'clock this afternoon. In a statement Ponzi said: "I have had to resign as a director until my connections are desirable. Regardless of these disclosures and my past I am fully able to take care of all my obligations. I may be bankrupt by legal process of others, but my obligations will be paid in full."

A casual remark by Ponzi is said to have given the authorities the first clue to his past. This related to the records in the penitentiary at Montreal. Attorney-General Allen communicated with the police there and a week ago received a copy of the prison record and photographs of Charles Ponzi, alias Bianchi, who was committed to the prison in Montreal August 31, 1908, for forgery. The prisoner then was 26.

Identity Made Positive.
The identity of Ponzi with Ponzi was said to have been made positive by Eugene Laflamme, Bertillon expert of the Montreal police. The "Ponzi" with the Canadian record had been associated with Zrossi & Company, bankers. Ponzi was arrested after the company failed in 1908 and Zrossi fled to Mexico. This company is said to have offered large returns on investments.

Commissioner Allen in a statement said: "Last Friday I sent examiners to the bank. They are still there. The closing of the bank was in large part due to their report as to the condition of the loans. Not only did they find loans excessive and beyond legal limit, but they found also many loans that are either bad or of very doubtful value."

Money Paid Ponzi.
When asked if Ponzi's certificate of deposit of \$1,500,000 had anything to do with his action, he replied: "I have given you the reasons which brought about the closing but I know this to be a fact, the Hanover Trust officials acting contrary to law and against the specific direction of the commissioner of banks, have paid either to Ponzi or to his agents almost \$500,000 of the \$1,500,000 represented in the certificate of deposit. I directed the bank not to pay any part of that certificate of deposit. Nevertheless almost \$500,000 has been paid out. Whether there is any penalty for such an offense except a fine of \$1000, I do not know."

As to the bank's condition, he said: "I fear its capital has been impaired."

1500 SHARES HELD IN BANK
Ponzi's Connection With Hanover Trust Company Is Told.

BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 11.—W. S. McNary, chairman of the board of directors and treasurer of the Hanover Trust company, explained today how Charles Ponzi became associated with that bank. He said:

"The bank was introduced at the bank last week by a man of the name of Charles Ponzi, a man was convicted of forgery and false pretenses and sentenced to three years in the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary.

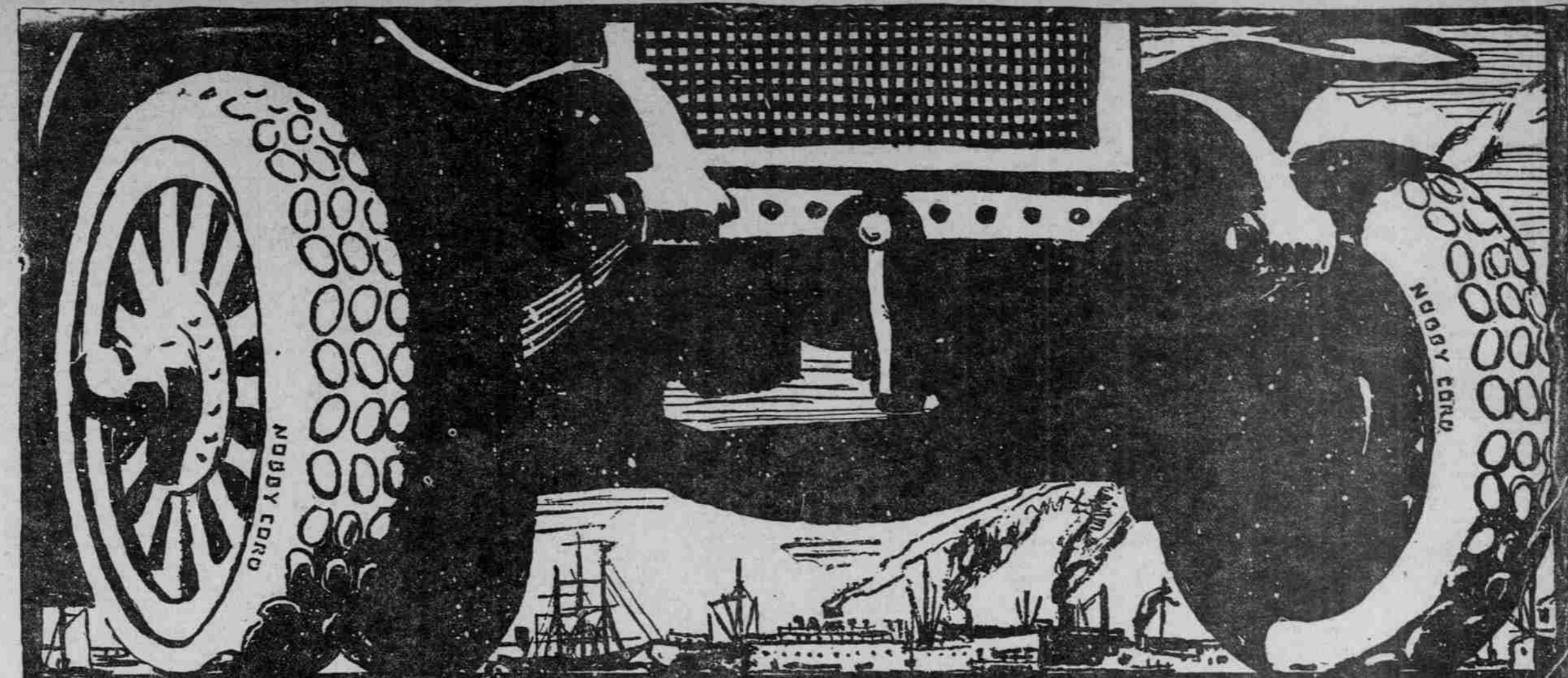
Two Years Served at Atlanta. ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 11.—Records of the penitentiary here show that a Charles Ponzi served a two-year sentence in that institution from 1910 to 1912. He was convicted at Buffalo, N. Y., of smuggling aliens into this country.

Airplane Wrecked in Fall.
MARTINEZ, Cal., Aug. 11.—An airplane piloted by Clarence Brown Yakima, Wash., and carrying Edward Dietz Martinez, owner of the machine, was wrecked here today when it fell 60 feet shortly after it had taken to the air on a trip to Yreka, Cal. The man was not hurt.

S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co. Main 353. 550-21. —Adv.

PONZI CONVICTED OF FORGERY
Records at Montreal Show Man Was Member of Banking Firm.

MONTREAL, Aug. 11.—(By Canadian Press.)—From records in the hands of the Montreal police, it appears that Charles Ponzi was a member of the firm of Zrossi & Company, bankers, this city, which failed in 1908.



WHO PAYS FOR PNEUMATIC TRUCK TIRE EXPERIMENTS

WHEN an automobile owner's tire goes back on him he more or less cheerfully charges it off as a personal loss and tries to do better next time.

It is different with the motor truck owner.

Every tire must do exactly what is expected of it or be charged against his business.

Experimenting with tires is not the job of the truck owner.

The United States Rubber Company spent two years in developing the idea of putting a heavy truck on air before it brought out the first pneumatic truck tires. Even then it was not satisfied.

Even at that time it saw that you could not take an ordinary passenger car tire, enlarge it and make it do what truck owners expect of their tires.

It went back again to first principles—to the foundation—to the bead of the tire.

It created a new type of bead construction, positively anchoring the cords. It put in the right number of breaker strips, stronger side walls, a heavier tread.

The result was a pneumatic truck tire—not an enlarged passenger car tire. Created to fill a need—not padded and bolstered up to fill a market already created.

There are still some sizes of U. S. Nobby Cord Tires you cannot buy. The market is there, waiting for them.

But they will not be released until this company is satisfied that they will do what truck owners expect of them.

The United States Rubber Company has never asked truck owners to pay for its tire experiments.



The car owner who seeks United States Standards in tubes is paid in more mileage for his tires. U. S. Red Tubes. U. S. Grey Tubes.

U.S. Pneumatic Truck Tires

United States Rubber Company

Tire Division Branch, 24-26 Fifth St. North

U. S. Pneumatic Truck Tire Dealers in this City: -

MILES & CLARK, 26 N. Broadway

MINERS TOLD TO RESUME

U. S. COMMISSION ORDERS STRIKERS TO WORK.

Kansas Men Who Have Been Out Two Weeks Decide to Go Back Under Protest.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Striking employees of the Pennsylvania Coal company in the Pennsylvania anthracite field were directed today to return to work by the federal anthracite coal commission and the anthracite board of conciliation. The two mediation boards adopted separate but concurrent resolutions declaring the return of the strikers, estimated to number approximately 10,000, was necessary that the public coal supply might not be jeopardized.

FISH INJUNCTION SOUGHT

Astoria Packing Company Asks Writ to Block 5-Mile Law.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The Union Fishermen's Packing company of Astoria today filed with the supreme court an application for an injunction restraining enforcement of an action against Carl D. Sheemaker, former state game warden, to prevent enforcement of the law prohibiting any person or firm to possess or sell food fish caught outside the three mile limit opposite the mouth of the

Two Judges Run Again.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Judges George D. Abel and Ben Sheeks, incumbents, have filed for the superior court judgeship race this fall. The terms of both judges expire at the end of the year. Other filings for county offices include C. W. Ariand, commissioner first district; H. D. McKenny, Hoquiam, and Jesse L. Havens, Hoquiam, for sheriff on the republican ticket, and E. M. Hoover, Hoquiam, for sheriff on the democratic ticket.

Toledo Votes Big Bond Issue.

TOLEDO, O., Aug. 11.—Toledo voters yesterday voted approval of \$11,000,000 bonds for school purposes, but turned down the proposal to bond the city for \$7,000,000 for the purchase of the transportation system.

POSITIVELY STOPS FALLING HAIR

Invigorates the scalp—promotes a most luxuriant growth and doubles the beauty of the hair in a few weeks. **Lucky Tiger**—The Nation's Hair Remedy—quickly cures dandruff and scalp itching. A wonderful dressing used by millions. Try it today. For sale at all LEADING BARBER SHOPS!

Cuticura Soap

The Velvet Touch For the Skin

BRIACEA

A Wonderful Medicine. TRY this approved remedy. Just the tonic for nervousness, sleeplessness, depressed feeling, loss of appetite, digestive troubles, brain fog, or slow recovery from influenza and kindred ailments. A tonic, alterative and diuretic for blood and nerve disorders. ASK YOUR DRUGGIST