

# ACTORS TO BE REVEALED IN MURDER SCENES

## Exposure of Depravity in Movie World Feared

### SCANDALOUS MESS BARED

#### Slayer of Director Taylor May Never Be Found, if Film Interests Have Their Way.

BY EDWARD DOHERTY.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—The murder of William Desmond Taylor, film director of national reputation, may never be solved. Scores of sleuths are working on the case, but there are many baffling angles, many clues that lead nowhere, many tips that serve only to cloud the identity of the man who fired the shot, and the mystery grows more complex every minute.

The detective is still looking for Edward F. Sands, ex-valet and friend of the slain director, for a man known as a broker, for another director, for a number of "top peddlers."

Twenty men and women are under suspicion. Twenty apparently no clew of any great value has been unearthed, and the search has become all but hopeless.

City Brought to Crisis.

The murder mystery has brought the city virtually to a crisis. There are hundreds of substantial citizens who are in the line of the iron hand of the moving picture giant, holding down the curtain that the police and newspaper would spend millions of dollars, not to catch the murderer, but to prevent the truth from coming out, to avert the exposure of Hollywood, to squelch, before it is born, the scandal of the century.

Taylor, who seems to have deserted his wife and baby some 14 years ago, who lived under an assumed name, surrounded himself with a circle of doubtful character—men who crocheted, embroidered, women of queer reputation—who lived the typical life of a movie director, was pictured in all the gossip of the studio as the saint of Hollywood, according to his friends.

Taylor Declared Charming.

Men and women who knew him say he was a charming gentleman—above reproach.

It is quite true that the movie world would prefer to have this case handled in silence, even ignored. Associates regret the death of Taylor, not because they feel the dead should be buried, but because they fear the world may come to know all about the little parties that help to relieve the tedium of studio life, the unbecoming companionship between extra girls, assistant movie directors and in many instances, between male and female stars.

They fear that the movie patrons may learn how "Tulle Hot Scotch" who played the sweet country girl in the latest blue release, entertains her friends by dressing them all in silk kimonos, irrespective of the weather, and squats them down in a circle to drink orange juice, gin, beer and ether, or some other queer mixture with a kick.

Hollywood Is Content.

Orange juice and gin is the favorite tipple of many a dear, lovely child of the screen. Ether and beer are considered the poison of a healthy "nerve."

They fear that there might be some misunderstandings if the free moonlight parties, sometimes held in the Beverly hills district, where nymphs and maidens, dressed in blue and purple of melting moonbeams.

Hollywood is content with itself, for movie life is a life of no change. It wants no chastisement, it wants to go on.

The movie bosses are in power in the blind. Did an exposure threaten, they had a ready-made Los Angeles can ill afford to lose the millions of dollars spent and invested by the movie industry.

Drug Peddlers Sought.

If the movies leave Los Angeles the city will suffer.

Even now the police are seeking to round up five addicts of drugs who have been in many a movie star's bungalow, who know sinister things about the industry and who may know something of the murder.

"It's terrible," said one of the stars today. "Already the people are beginning to think that the police want to put up signs reading 'Don't feed the animals.'"

The scandal is breaking too, at a particularly inopportune time for those of the movie colony. Many studios have closed temporarily, many actors and actresses are out of work, living on such credit as they can get. They have saved nothing. When they had money they spent it on gay clothes, on the latest fashions, and they haunt the office of the casting director daily, begging for the chance to play even a bit part, anything at all. Some of them who have been featured would even delight to get into a mob scene.

Scant Information Obtained.

Those at work are receiving reduced wages, trying to live up to their old salaries.

The police are getting scant information from the movie colony about the real character of the dead man, about his friends, his enemies, about any possible motives for the murder.

The police are working hard, but they are under a terrific handicap. They must deal gently with the stars, some of the police are friends of the big actors and actresses; have taken money from them as wages for appearing in certain pictures. The police are not going to question them as tactlessly as they would "a girl of no position who had been caught smuggling."

The police rest their hopes of solution in a series of tiny ridges and white and black lines made on the smooth surface of doors and tables and chair arms in the cozy bachelor flat where Taylor lived, on finger prints, and on the information to be obtained from a band of dope peddlers they are watching, and on the arrest of Taylor's ex-valet, Edward F. Sands, or Strathmore.

The finger prints, though, are the most reliable clues so far found and in them rests the fate of some of the prettiest stars in the movie colony.

Scoundrels Are Discarded.

It is impossible to tell the finger print of a man from that of a woman, but an expert might be able to make a good guess from the size and shape of the print and it seems that a number of women left their identi-

# WAR CORRESPONDENTS AND GENERAL PERSHING AT PEACE

Overseas Commander Invites Overseas Writers to Renew Old Associations and Banquet Is Held at Metropolitan Club, in Capital.

(Copyright, 1922, by The Oregonian.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—Now, indeed, it may be said that the war is over, the general commanding the American expeditionary forces and the war correspondents who saw service in France have broken bread together. The Hon. and the lambs gathered about the festal board at the Metropolitan club on Friday noon at the general's request to "join with him in a renewal of old associations."

There were many stories of the trying days in France and many questions were made. General Pershing confessed that he personally had acted as censor at times, and the correspondents opined that they knew at last why their dispatches had been delayed so long.

"I wanted to know something about every phase of the work of the expeditionary forces," said the general, "and as I had the press officers bring the dispatches to me from time to time so I could see just how they were being handled."

"You and I have learned a great deal about war from those dispatches," suggested one of the bolder spirits at the table, and a burst of laughter. But the general insisted on being serious for a moment.

"I do not believe the people at home realize what the war has done to you boys. I don't believe even that the army had anything like a full appreciation of the work you did."

Gathering Is Strange One.

It was sort of a strange gathering of correspondents at that. There were 15 of us in all. Some had traveled with the general, and some had not. The remarkable feature of the assemblage was that with but one exception not a correspondent at the table was who saw the least of the war. The reason for this is not difficult to explain. The closer one gets to the front the more one sees of it, the more it became a part of one, the less you could write the stuff of which books are made. It was easy with enough gripping enough to write the daily dispatch, but to attempt to view the war in objective was virtually impossible.

It was remarked at the luncheon that with one or two exceptions those who wrote the most about the war were those who were least in it. Correspondents who made a three-days' tour of the front and got but one impression of the war came away and wrote for weeks and months. Those who lived with the armies and knew what was going on everywhere along the line were sadly hampered by facts.

General Pershing admitted that he himself had experienced great difficulty in writing about the war as a whole. One was conscious always of the inadequacy of mere words. The war zone was a world apart.

Many Reminiscences Made.

The luncheon brought out many reminiscences. One of the most interesting had to do with an incident at the front. The general's American expeditionary forces called to Colonel Roosevelt to come over and see the front. The general, having been denied the privilege of taking a division to France, was stamped in the prosaic furniture in the dead man's rooms.

The police had hoped to find finger prints of the murderer. They were disappointed. The prints of Sands, taken when he enlisted during the war—but it is not certain they have Sands' prints, those brought out by the aluminum dust in the house in Alvarado street.

They have found smudges that might have been made by a man, prints indistinct, impressions that could not be photographed, but that remained there when the dust was sprinkled on them. They are prints that Taylor made himself, but would not say what they were, and the tiny prints that were left by the dainty fingers of a beautiful girl.

Reputation May Be Blasted.

The police are attempting to identify these prints in an effort to find all the women who ever visited the moving picture man at his home. It may be one of the women who were the silken things so carefully kept in the bureau drawer upstairs.

This, the single picture of a finger, may blast the reputation made by thousands of pictures of a beautiful girl.

Many of the movie stars have been questioned by the police. Mabel Normand, who left Taylor a few minutes before he was killed; Mary Miles Minter, who became hysterical when she heard of the murder, and other women who have been found of him at some time during his life in Hollywood, have been interviewed by the police, but have been unable to furnish the slightest clue. Can the others tell anything of value?

A woman today called up the detective and inquired and said she had some information on the murder. Detectives went hurrying to her home, but would not say what she had revealed. It was the first bit of information given voluntarily.

Peavey Tries to Leave.

Henry Peavey, by the way, put his feet on a satchel this afternoon, his beautiful pillow tops, his exquisite dollies, his crochet work and his tattling and prepared to depart from the city. He called on Captain Adams to let him know of his intentions.

"Not so quick," said Adams. "You will stay in Los Angeles until released."

"I can't stay, captain," said the detective. "I'm very homesick without Mr. Taylor. I'll sure miss him, captain. Got no one now to squa-ooze my toes to do my sewing in. Please let me go."

The captain explained that he wanted Peavey to remain as a material witness and declared that if he tried to go away he might find himself in another nice sewing room, with free board.

Work on Hospital Stopped.

SALIEH, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—Work on Salieh's new hospital was stopped here last night because of a lack of funds. The first unit of the structure will cost approximately \$54,000, of which more than \$39,000 already has been expended. Hence, the hospital committee, issued a statement today in which he said that many persons who had subscribed to the fund, the structure had failed to pay their January assessments.

Fair Set for August.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—E. R. Somerville, Lewis county, Wash., died recently at his home in Spokane, where he attended the annual meeting of the North Pacific Fair association, which is held in Centralia in the northwest each year. The southwest Washington fair will be held the week of August 24, Mr. Somerville announced.

# ACTOR IS QUICKEST IN TAYLOR MURDER

## "Suspect" Is Quizzed But Later Released.

### DRUG VENDOR IS SOUGHT

#### Several New Developments Mark Inquiry Into Death of Film Producer.

(Continued From First Page.)

ex-employee had been heard to exclaim, when he heard of the slaying: "Bill Taylor got only what he deserved."

Only Minor Position Held.

The investigation showed the police that the man had been employed on the Famous Players-Lasky "lot," working under Taylor in a minor capacity.

One day he was drunk when he went on duty. Taylor ordered him to leave the place and during the day the man returned, only to find an order from Taylor that he should not be admitted.

Peavey's valet said they had begun a search for him, but with little hope of important results as the affair seemed too trivial to warrant a search.

Ex-Butler Still Sought.

Sands also was still a figure in the investigation of the tragedy, police detectives said, after running down numerous clues to the man's whereabouts. The "main issue" at the present time, one investigator said, was to establish where Sands was for several days prior to the shooting of Taylor.

Questioning of film actors and actresses and other acquaintances of Taylor in and out of motion-picture circles was continued.

Peavey's valet for Taylor, who found the body Thursday morning, also was questioned.

Peavey's statement was understood to relate to the arrangement of furniture in the apartment where the tragedy occurred.

Continued interest was expressed in the statement of Mabel Normand, film actress, that letters written by her to Taylor, which had been preserved, were missing from his apartment. Investigators said they did not believe the letters in themselves warranted any light on the case, but that they were at a loss to understand why anyone should take the trouble to remove them.

Taylor had preserved them to the time of his death.

A. L. Manning, head of the criminal investigation department of the sheriff's office, and several deputies were absent most of the day on a mission connected with the slaying.

The district attorney's office also had men assigned to the case, working jointly with the police detective force.

The possibility that the slayer was a frustrated blackmailer was also being considered. It was declared to be a remote chance that he was a burglar, surprised by Taylor, who fled after shooting without attempting to remove valuables.

Slayer Is Believed Man.

Captain of Detectives Adams, who is directing the police investigation into the slaying, said he was convinced that the slayer was a man.

Whether the fact that Taylor had changed his name from that of William Cunningham Desmond to Taylor, which he had known in New York 14 years ago, had any bearing upon the case had not been determined, according to Adams, but the circumstance seemed to have no bearing upon the principal angles of the mystery.

DEALER RECOGNIZES TANNER

Antique Shop Owner Says Taylor Was in New York on Business.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 5.—A tale of how he had known William Desmond Taylor in Los Angeles, and how he had known William Cunningham Deane Tanner, was told here today by Harry Foster, proprietor of an antique shop, 217 West 10th street.

Foster formerly was in the same business in New York, where, he said, he met Deane Tanner once or twice a week for several years, and his habits and his family, Foster said.

"Tanner then was a partner in an antique shop at Thirty-first street and Fifth avenue," said Foster. "His two business associates were A. J. Crawford and a man named Barker."

Foster said that he had known Tanner for several years, and that he had seen him in Los Angeles, but he did not know him in Los Angeles.

"At that time a well dressed man entered my shop, I recognized him immediately, but he refused to recognize me. He assumed the role of a stranger. I asked him if I could help him in looking over my goods and he replied curtly, 'No, I'm just looking around.'"

"At first I thought I might have been mistaken in identifying him as 'Cost and Profit' in the drainage business. I had watched him for a time as he wandered around the shop, I decided I had been correct. 'Are you Mr. Tanner?' I asked, stepping up to him. 'Mr. Tanner, formerly of the antique shop in New York?'"

"He looked up briefly and replied I was mistaken and hurriedly left the shop. He never returned."

Foster said pictures of Taylor published since his slaying had convinced him he was correct in his identification.

"PAST" SEEMS COMPLICATED

Taylor Reported to Have Been in Trouble in Alaska.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 5.—What the police said tonight might throw some light on what seemed to be the "complicated past" of William Desmond Taylor was told recently by a Spanish-American war veteran who lives at the national soldiers' home at Sausalito, near San Francisco.

"In the fall of 1908," said Sledge, "I was in Lewiston, Idaho. One day an acquaintance pointed out to me a man who was in a crowd of people. He was a large soft felt hat and wearing long hair."

"That's Bill Taylor," said my acquaintance. "He came here recently from Alaska, where he was either United States marshal or a deputy. He had some trouble in Alaska and got out by concealing himself in a box or barrel and getting aboard ship undetected."

"I learned Taylor had opened a small shop in Lewiston. I am sure from pictures I have seen of Taylor that he was the man I saw in Lewiston."

Tending to show the alleged feeling of Taylor toward Edward F.

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### Prosperity Returns with the Close of the Civil War

#### GREAT rejoicing, mingled with that harrowing sorrow which is ever the toll of war, marked the termination of the long, heart-breaking struggle between North and South.



Early wood cut of Multnomah County Court House which stood on same site as present Court House. Erected 1855-6.

For Portland it was the beginning of an era of prosperity; the erstwhile frontier settlement was rapidly assuming the proportions and airs of a real city. The dreams of her pioneers, to the realization of which they had striven so mightily, were being consummated at a gratifying rate—gas lamps adorned her street corners; a telegraph line, but recently connected up, facilitated communication with the East, via San Francisco; the Oregon Iron Company, with a capital of \$500,000 had been organized; the Willamette Valley Railroad—these and many other projected enterprises gave intimation of her great future.

And in the forefront of this amazing development—fostering, encouraging, helping then as it does now, to the limit of its great resources, Ladd & Tilton carried the banner of optimism and faith.

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# MALET USED IN FIGHT

## CEDOR ROMANOFF ACCUSES MAN AND WOMAN.

### Proprietor and Porter of Richelieu Hotel Arrested on Complaint of Alleged Victim.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Feb. 5.—During most of the time between the disappearance of William Desmond Taylor in New York until he re-entered the employ of a motion picture company in Los Angeles in 1912, he was working as timekeeper for the Yukon Gold company in Yukon territory, according to George Morrison, a local resident.

Mr. Morrison said last night Mr. Taylor went to San Francisco from New York early in 1909 and from there was sent to the Yukon territory at Dawson in March, 1909. He remained there until some time in 1912, according to Mr. Morrison, who was a hydraulic engineer for the company during that time. He then went west to Los Angeles, where he was employed by the Yukon Gold company, he told Mr. Morrison, of whom he is a confident, that was not his real name. He also told Mr. Morrison, according to the latter, that he left New York because of debts contracted while he was an art dealer in New York.

"The man who was with Taylor, I thought was his personal banker, he told Mr. Morrison.

# CHINA SENDS THANKS

## Harding Congratulated on Help in Settling Shantung Question.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—The following cablegram from President Hau Shih Chang of China was received today at the White House:

"I am most happy to learn that during the conference at Washington, through the untiring and wisely interested labors of your excellency and the American delegation, a solution of the long-outstanding Shantung question has been reached. Thus the peace of the far east is further assured. On behalf of the government and people of the Republic of China I have the honor to extend to your excellency our sincere thanks and felicitations."

# HARBOR CONGRESS SET

## Proposed St. Lawrence Canal Expected to Be Livest Topic.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—The seventh convention of the national rivers and harbors congress would be held here March 1 and 2. It was announced today.

The programme has not been definitely formulated, but the official call invited the "perhaps the liveliest of the topics to be discussed was the St. Lawrence ship canal."

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For over fifty years, a standard remedy for coughs, colds and grippe. Eases cough also. Loosens up phlegm, quiets the croupy cough, stimulates the bowels, thus relieving the congestion. All druggists, 60c.

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Dr. King's Pills

# Dr. King's Pills

Why suffer? Dr. King's Asthma Remedy gives instant relief. 25 years of success. 75c at all druggists. Avoid substitutes. Trial Treatment mailed Free. Write to Dr. F. G. Kingman, East Rock, Augusta, Maine.

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# Laxatives Replaced

By the Use of Nujol

Nujol is a lubricant—not a medicine or laxative—so cannot gripe.

When you are constipated, there is not enough lubricant produced by your system to keep the food waste soft. Doctors prescribe Nujol because its action is so close to that of natural lubricant. Try it today.

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Stops Pain Instantly

The simplest way to end a corn is Blue-jay. A touch stops the pain instantly. Then the corn loosens and comes out. Made in two forms—cornless, clear liquid (one drop does it) and in extra thin plasters. Use whichever form you prefer, plasters or the liquid—the action is the same. Safe, gentle. Made in a world-famed laboratory. Sold by all druggists.

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