

LEADER CONFESSES MURDER OF TAYLOR

Los Angeles Police Get New Clew in Movie Case.

WRITER'S NAME SECRET

Epistle From Eastern Town Says Screen Director Was Killed by Injured Husband.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 5.—The latest "confession" to the murder of William Desmond Taylor, film director, received by the police here in a letter mailed from an unnamed Connecticut city, was made by a man who described himself as "an avenging husband." It was disclosed today by Captain of Detective Adams.

The officers withheld the name of the city from which the "confession" was received, and the name signed to the document, which covered 10 pages of hotel stationery, while they endeavored to learn more of the writer before he follows his announced plan to leave the United States immediately.

According to the partial disclosures by the police, the writer of the "confession" declared the film director had had "an affair" with the writer's wife. Later the director had "scooped" her. Then the wife confessed to her husband, and the two of them planned "vengeance."

The "confession" stated that the night of the murder, February 1, the writer and his wife drove in an automobile to within two blocks of the Taylor bungalow. There they parked their car. From a distance they saw Mabel Normand, film actress, leaving the apartment house. They saw her motor car by the director, and Henry Peavey, Taylor's negro servant, talking with William Davis, Miss Normand's chauffeur.

While Taylor was talking at the car with Miss Normand, the "confession" continues, the accused wife slipped through the open front door of the director's apartment and unlocked the back door for her husband to enter.

When Taylor returned, the wife and husband confronted him. Details of the meeting and the murder were not given out by the police, but later, the wife left by the back door, which the husband locked after her, while she hurried to their automobile and started the engine in readiness for a quick departure when he rejoined her.

Police Credit Story.

Then the husband left calmly by the front door, stooping slightly so he would not be recognized if he were seen, and quickly joined his wife and drove away with her in the automobile.

The police stated that they place a certain amount of credence in the "confession."

Captain Adams stated the handwriting of the "confession" was similar to that of Edward P. Dwyer, an ex-buller-secretary to Taylor, but pointed out that the context precluded its being the work of Dwyer. The name of a well-known man connected with the motion-picture industry in Hollywood was mentioned in the "confession," and the police are convinced, they state, that he has no intimate knowledge of the crime.

300 Confess Killing.

More than 300 persons in the United States, one in England and one in France have "confessed" they killed Taylor, but none of them has signed a name to his "confession," except in the case of the Connecticut man, according to the officers. Most of the letters apparently were from poorly-educated persons.

In addition to the "confessions," hundreds of other letters have been received, advancing what the officers termed "highly colored" theories concerning the murder mystery and its solution.

These letters are in the hands of Thomas Lee Woolwine, district attorney.

Connecticut Wants Data.

HARTFORD, Conn., March 5.—Superintendent Hurley of the Connecticut state police department, announced tonight that he has telegraphed Captain Adams of the Los Angeles police department for information regarding the letter reported to have been written by the alleged slayer of William Desmond Taylor. It was reported here that the letter bore a Hartford postmark.

HONGKONG PORT CLOSED

Port Reported to Have Been Put Under Martial Law.

MANILA, P. I., March 5.—Martial law has been declared at Hongkong and the port has been closed as a result of the strike of Chinese seamen, according to official advice received here today by British Consul-General Harrington.

A dispatch received from Hongkong by the United States shipping board office here said that one man was killed and eight were wounded in a fight between strikers and police there yesterday. The dispatch did not say whether the casualties were strikers or police.

In continuation of the unofficial advice received by Consul-General Harrington were press reports which stated that the Hongkong strike had been settled.

INDUSTRY IS IMPROVING

(Continued From First Page.)

turbid by surface indications which they interpret as a too rapid return to prosperity. Such a movement cannot get under way in a month or two, in the normal course of industry.

An analyst can write, without hesitation, an accurate prediction of prosperity's coming back in 1932.

The situation, however, is not normal. There are grave industrial problems ahead, first of which, of course, is the coal strike. Another is the readjustment of railroad wages, which will soon be crowding the first pages of the newspapers. Still a third is the readjustment of railroad rates.

Rate Decision Coming.

A decision in the rate case may reasonably be expected from the interstate commerce commission within the next three weeks. It may be handed down within ten days. There is, of course, no discounting the decision; but whatever it may be, its effect on the country's prosperity during the coming ten months will be indelible.

From the standpoint of finance and credit the country is in clover.

Within the past 12 months the federal reserve banks have increased their holdings of gold by nearly \$800,000,000. Their reserve ratio—the safety line of credit—has risen from 50 per cent to nearly 77. The amount of money they have lent on notes, including government securities, has shrunk from more than \$3,000,000,000 to \$800,000,000—more than 67 per cent. They have retired from circulation nearly a billion dollars in currency.

Gold Is Imported

Nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars in gold has been imported since the period of depression first became pronounced.

All this surplus money is seeking work. Hence the present easy money. Hence, also, the recurrence of million-dollar days on the New York stock exchange with little disturbance to call money rates. Hence again, the rise in security levels and ten points in the case of leading shares, within the past year, half of which has occurred within the last 30 days.

Of all the many factors entering into the present hopeful situation, the rise in value of farm products is the surest token of better times.

And that means increased prosperity for about 35,000,000 persons in the United States. Until that great agricultural element is prosperous there can be no real hope for continued prosperity for the rest of America.

Better Times Ahead

The signs point to an immediate return of a considerable degree of prosperity to the farmer—not a boom period, but a good one—and with it a corresponding degree of prosperity for the entire country.

DRY AGENTS ARE RAPPED

FLEISCHMANN OFFICER SAYS DEPARTMENT IS MUDDLED.

Officials Seem to Think That All Alcohol Not Used in Medicine Is Illicitly Sold, Is View.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5.—Henry Kallenbach, vice-president of the Fleischmann Company, in a letter to the department of justice, last night asserted that the federal prohibition department "is in such a bad muddle it doesn't know what it's all about."

His statement was occasioned by the announcement that prohibition agents are revoking industrial alcohol permits of the Fleischmann company, which has been suspended by internal revenue commissioner Blair and that seizure of alcohol in possession of the company and its agencies would be held up.

"We shall continue to manufacture alcohol," said Mr. Kallenbach, "although we shall respect the government's order by not shipping any of it until Tuesday."

Concerning charges that several hundred thousands of gallons of alcohol had been "diverted to non-medical uses" by the Fleischmann company, he said:

"Apparently the prohibition officials are under the impression that all alcohol not used as medicine is bootlegged. They seem to forget that it is extensively used in the manufacture of perfumes, tonics, lotions and a score of other products."

"When they charge us with shipping alcohol on fraudulent permits they don't know what they are talking about. They're all mixed up. We're not bootleggers. We're not shipping liquor permits on a table and asked prohibition officials to pick out the fraudulent ones. They chose the ones which, on a previous occasion they had declared were genuine—and vice versa. It seems they have no right to pick out the ones which are not genuine."

Mr. Kallenbach expressed confidence that the government would "forget about the charges" and that operations of the Fleischmann company would not be interfered with.

BUSINESS MEN TO COME

New Methods of Land Clearing to Be Shown at Corbett.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, March 5.—(Special.)—Portland business men are expected to arrive in Corvallis today for the agricultural college workers to join in the new method land clearing demonstrations at Corbett next Saturday.

The big stumps will be cut by various stages of burning out by the Zysset stump-burner process, developed through the investigations of the Oregon experiment station.

Local arrangements are being made by S. B. Hall, county agent.

Demonstrations are planned by Paul V. Maris, director of extension, and will be conducted by H. D. Scudder, chief of farm management whose investigations have established the success of the method.

Y. W. C. A. HEAD CHOSEN

Edna Renden of Gresham Elected at Agricultural College.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, March 5.—(Special.)—Edna Renden of Gresham is the new president of the Young Women's Christian association of the college. She is a junior in home economics. Miss Renden is assistant editor of the 1932 Beaver and a member of the "Y. W." cabinet. She was a member of the Madrigal club last year.

A native of Corvallis, she is a junior in home economics, is vice-president, and Ruth Moreland of Portland, sophomore in home economics, is secretary.

Portland, sophomore in home economics, is treasurer.

IDAHO LAND PROBE DUE

(Continued From First Page.)

ferred to make the exchange, as it is understood that the Northern Pacific railroad is no longer entering into contracts to sell its lands as low as \$1.50 an acre. Scrip in many cases, it was said, has risen in value to \$15 to \$17 an acre.

All of the land which would have been exchanged for the national forest lands in north Idaho is situated in the southern part of the state.

Banks Get Gold Dust

GRANTS PASS, Or., March 5.—(Special.)—The finest quality of gold dust received by local banks this winter was weighed in by L. B. Johnson of this city, who has started operations on the Forest Queen mine, about seven miles from here. Small shipments of gold are being received daily by the banks, though, with the exception of one weighing 60 ounces, are in small quantities.

Major James Miles Dies

CHICAGO, March 5.—Major James Miles, efficiency engineer and lawyer, who spent 15 months as one of Herbert Hoover's immediate assistants in food administration work during the war, died yesterday of pneumonia.

You Need Not Have a Cold if you will take Lexative BROMO QUININE TABLETS when you feel the first symptoms of a cold coming on.—Adv.

TRIAL OF GOVERNOR IS TO START TODAY

Conspiracy to Defraud State of Illinois Is Charged.

2 OTHERS ALSO INDICTED

Embezzlement of Funds From State Treasury During Term of Office Is Alleged.

WAUKEGAN, Ill., March 5.—For the first time in the history of Illinois its chief executive will go on trial during his term of office in the courthouse here tomorrow.

Not since the impeachment and removal of William Sulzer from the governorship of New York in 1913 has the governor of any American state faced charges so serious or which have attracted the widespread attention as those pending against Gov. Small, 28th governor of Illinois, and his fellow defendants, Lieutenant-Governor Sterling and Vernon Curtis, a banker of Grant Park, Ill.

In Illinois' 104 years of statehood only two other governors have ever been indicted while in office, and in each of the previous cases the court dismissed the charges without trial because of their trivial nature.

Conspiracy Is Charged

Although Governor Small and the Messrs. Sterling and Curtis are charged jointly with conspiracy to defraud the state through embezzlement of funds from the state treasury during the terms of Mr. Small and Mr. Curtis as state treasurer, only the governor will go on trial here Monday.

Mr. Curtis, whose case was brought to Lake county from Sangamon county with that of the governor, was granted a separate trial by Judge Edwards, presiding in circuit court here.

Lieutenant-Governor Sterling did not ask for a change of venue and his case is still pending in the Sangamon county circuit court at Springfield.

Originally there were four indictments against Messrs. Small, Sterling and Curtis, three of which involved the governor, but only one—the conspiracy case—remains.

One Indictment Quashed

One indictment, charging the three defendants with embezzling \$700,000, was quashed by Judge Edwards. The court also quashed several counts in the conspiracy indictments which related to the sale of technical errors.

The judge then ordered the governor to trial on an indictment charging embezzlement of \$500,000 during his term as state treasurer, but the state objected to trying this case first, and it is extensively used in the manufacture of perfumes, tonics, lotions and a score of other products.

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Two Sets of Books Kept

To this private bank, the state claims, Mr. Small and Mr. Curtis, the former as state treasurer in 1917-18, and the latter in 1919-20—lent millions of state funds with no other security than Mr. Curtis' certificate of deposit, which, he recently loaned to four Chicago packing companies—Armour, Swift, Morris and the Cudahy Packing company—on short-term loans.

Governor Small and Lieutenant-Governor Sterling kept two sets of books while in the treasurer's office, and the latter is now loaned to four Chicago packing companies—Armour, Swift, Morris and the Cudahy Packing company—on short-term loans.

The "vault fund," which was loaned to banks throughout the state, and the other known as the "sinking fund" covering money placed in the Grant Park bank. During Mr. Small's term, the bill of particulars alleges, the funds in the Grant Park bank alone earned \$924,066.23 in interest, while the total amount of interest, discounts and profits accounted for by Mr. Small from all funds in his charge was only \$459,016.12.

The earnings of the Grant Park transactions alone exceeded the total of interest accounted for by the governor by \$474,050.16; the bill alleges.

LONDON CRIME INCREASES

BURGARS AND ROBBERS TRY TO BRIGHTEN UP TOWN.

Drunkenness Declared to Be on Up Grade as Result of Unlimited Supply of Liquor.

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LONDON, March 5.—(Special cable.)—The brighten-up London movement that has been under way for several weeks is striking some social and moral snags, as appears in increasing numbers of arrests of persons who feel that the way to enliven the town is to paint it red, and others who have thought to spice city life by multiplying burglaries and hold-ups.

Magistrates have been inclined to leniently treat these offenders, who have constructed the storage of 2,000,000 gallons of wine at the London docks and unlimited supplies of spirituous liquors at all the bars as a sort of semi-official assurance that the city can be made merrier by liquor. Most of the court rulings have gone little further than to declare that, despite such temptations as are offered, a man is not legally justified in drinking more than he can comfortably hold.

As to burglars and hold-up men who are caught, the magisterial course has been so drastic as to start advocacy of a sympathetic sub-movement to be known as "brighten up the jails."

WIVES DIVIDE INSURANCE

Solomon-Like Decision Given in Case of Mohammedan.

(Copyright by the New York World. Published by Arrangement.)

PARIS, March 5.—(Special cable.)—A Mohammedan can have a harem in Paris, but if he dies, French law crowns deeply upon the attempt by any one of his wives to collect the full amount of insurance. They must share it equally.

This Solomon-like decision was rendered in the case of the two wives of Amar Ben Mechuk, who had married them in Algeria and brought them to Paris when he came here to work in a factory. Amar was killed in an accident and French law provides for payment in such cases of 30 per cent of his pay to his widow and 25 per cent to his children.

There is nothing said about plural wives, so both Amar's wives, Djelma and Yehmina, his wife, sought to collect the maximum. Both have two children. But the court refused to entertain their plea and ordered one insurance policy divided between the two wives and their four children.

RADIO TO AID FARMERS

PLANS TO BROADCAST MARKET REPORTS ANNOUNCED.

Isolation of Agriculturist From City Declared to Have Been Completely Overcome.

CHICAGO, March 5.—The farmer following his furrow need be no more than 30 minutes behind his city brother in receiving news of the factors which determine prices of agricultural products, Robert McDougal, president of the Chicago board of trade, said tonight in outlining the board's plans to broadcast crop markets by radio beginning Monday.

The radio system, which will cover a radius of 500 miles of Chicago, was characterized by President McDougal as "the greatest forward step in 2000 years" in bringing the farmer in contact with the factors that make the price of his product.

President McDougal's statement follows in part:

"The telephone and the automobile moved the farmer closer to the city. They will be brought still closer by our radio telephone service. It is our belief that our half-hour bulletins, giving not only quotations, but fundamental news of the crop and market situation throughout the world, will enable the grain grower to buy or sell as confidently and almost as quickly as if he were in Chicago."

"The radio system will cover the territory within a radius of 500 miles of this city. In this area there are, I am informed, thousands of radio sets in villages and on farms. Even on farms where there is no apparatus there are telephones, and the nearby villages are connected with the city."

"I believe that country grain elevators, which are scattered everywhere, will serve as stations for our reports being distributed by them still farther by telephone to such farms as have not their own radios."

"A day may mean much to a farmer in marketing his grain. Prices in an open competitive market adjust themselves at high speed in changing conditions, and a change of price may mean a loss of thousands of dollars."

"For many years the farmer has complained that his isolation left him at a disadvantage in marketing his grain."

MAJOR PECK CONFIRMED

Senate Approves Appointment to Rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5.—President Hoover today announced that he had confirmed the appointment of Major Peck to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, which was proposed because of reported statements disparaging the Kansas and Missouri national guard units, and the American expeditionary forces, finally was confirmed Saturday by the senate after Peck had been rejected by his first promotion last year.

Major Peck, who now is stationed at Fort Sheridan, Ill., will lose the promotion pay for his first nomination was rejected, and also will be out-ranked by 82 junior lieutenant-colonels, who were confirmed when he was rejected.

Princess Mary will occupy the bedroom in which General Pershing slept during the week of her honeymoon which she will pass in Paris. The house Rue de Valenciennes, where the Princess and Viscount Lascelles will stop, belongs to Lord and Lady Granard, having been formerly the Paris home of Lady Granard's father, Lord Granard.

PRINCESS GOING TO PARIS

Honeymoon to Be Spent in Room Used by General Pershing.

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PARIS, March 5.—(Special cable.)—Princess Mary will occupy the bedroom in which General Pershing slept during the week of her honeymoon which she will pass in Paris. The house Rue de Valenciennes, where the Princess and Viscount Lascelles will stop, belongs to Lord and Lady Granard, having been formerly the Paris home of Lady Granard's father, Lord Granard.

HOSPITAL UNIT INSPECTED

Army Officer Lauds Efficiency of Guardsmen at Lebanon.

LEBANON, Or., March 5.—(Special.)—Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Delaplane of the regular army stationed at Vancouver, is in Lebanon on an inspection trip and making an inspection of the men and property of the hospital unit here of the national guard.

The unit here has a large amount of hospital supplies furnished by the government, including three auto trucks and one touring car. Three railroad carloads of equipment and supplies were recently received by the local unit of the federal army here.

The new 60 by 100-foot armory will soon be ready for use by the company. This armory is being erected by a stock company composed largely of members of the unit, for which the government will make a liberal allowance for rental. It is expected to be completed by June.

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In the home market (Puget Sound) the recipes above would cost for oysters per portion 13¢ to 16¢; in the distant markets (California) 19¢ to 24¢. Everything considered no other meat nucleus can be obtained at less cost. Every portion of Olympia Oysters is edible—no bones, no waste! they are all good!

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