

## BLACKMAIL PLOTS BARED BY SUICIDE

Woman Who Shot Herself to Death Once Convicted.

\$15,000 ACTION PENDING

Mrs. Emily Brittain Said to Have Forced Oil Operator to Sign Marriage Agreement.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 24.—Widespread blackmailing activities were declared bared here today by J. D. Armstrong, private detective, co-operating with local police detectives in investigation of the suicide late yesterday of Mrs. Emily Brittain in the apartments of Arthur Bowen, oil operator of Bethel, Okla., and El Paso, Tex., according to an announcement by Armstrong.

In addition to charges that the woman who shot herself had sought to blackmail a prominent local business man, Mr. Armstrong said investigation disclosed that she had pending in Fresno, Cal., a \$15,000 suit against William Hanke of Sanger, growing out of her arrest and a trial for embezzlement at Fresno under the name of Emily Smith.

**Woman Convicted in 1919.**  
Under the name of Emma Sembollo, according to Mr. Armstrong, Mrs. Brittain was convicted in San Francisco, March 28, 1919 (superior court case 10268), on a charge of embezzling a \$45,000 dress from Mrs. Stella Lippitt. She was married in Martinez, Cal., June 25, 1918, under the name of Emma Kaitman to John Sambrallo, according to papers recovered by Mr. Armstrong.

Mrs. Brittain, as she was known here, jumped down the light well of an apartment and, finding herself trapped, shot and killed herself late

yesterday when detectives apprehended her in Bowen's apartment. She was sought on a charge of robbery. Bowen turned over to the police an agreement pledging marriage to Emily Brittain immediately upon obtaining divorce from his wife. This agreement was signed "Emily Brittain" and Bowen told the police that she had used the pistol with which she later killed herself in threatening his life in seeking to force his signature to the agreement.

**Blackmail Plot Suspected.**  
From another detective agency it was learned that the woman had appeared there on the morning before her suicide and intimated that Bowen was wanted by the police elsewhere. This intimation by the woman against Bowen was declared by his friends here to be without basis, as he had conducted business here in a downtown brokerage office in connection with Oklahoma oil holdings. This was suggested by friends as merely being a part of an alleged blackmail plot by the woman against Bowen.

**BOWEN INNOCENT, SAYS WIFE**  
Telegram From Husband Gives No Hint of Trouble.

EL PASO, Tex., March 22.—"I'm sure Arthur didn't do anything wrong. I don't understand the affair at all. Perhaps there's been a mistake. Only yesterday I had a night letter from him and it gave no hint of impending trouble."

Mrs. Arthur Bowen, wife of an El Paso oil man held in Los Angeles pending an investigation into the suicide of Mrs. Emily Brittain, thus asserted her belief here today in her husband's innocence.

The Bowens came to El Paso in February, 1921, from Albuquerque, N. M. He was in the oil business there.

**YEGGS FLEE WITH \$22,000**  
Sedgwick, Wash., State Bank Robbed of Cash and Bonds.  
PORT ANGELES, Wash., March 24.—The vault and safe of the Sedgwick State bank at Sequim, near here, was blown early today by robbers who obtained \$22,000 in cash and bonds and escaped, taking to the hills to the south. Posses were organized to search for the men.

## COMPLETE TIE-UP OF MINES PLANNED

General Policy Committee Adopts Programme.

200,000 MORE MAY JOIN

Resolution for Immediate Call to Non-Union Men Also to Walk Out Is Adopted.

CLEVELAND, March 24.—A complete tie-up of the nation's entire coal industry by 200,000 non-union miners, joining the solid ranks of a half million union workers, was the programme adopted tonight by the general policy committee of the United Mine Workers of America for the nation-wide strike set for April 1.

By a unanimous vote of its 116 members, the committee affirmed the policy of a general suspension of union workers, which prohibited the consummation of single-state agreements, and followed this by directing district union officials to ask all non-union men to join the strike. The unanimity of action late in the day permitted a final adjournment to-night, although the committee had planned to continue sessions tomorrow.

**Non-Union Strike Urged.**  
The resolution for an immediate call to the non-union men also provided that the "international and district unions exert all their powers and influence to bring about a strike in the non-union coal fields of America." Although taking action which the union leaders said they hoped would stop the mining of a pound of coal after April 1, the committee declared itself as not intending to cause any public suffering. "In line with this stand, the committee authorized the district union officials to permit any

mine to be operated whenever necessary to meet an emergency. Under this programme, the officials said it would be possible to supply fuel for public utilities and institutions whenever the big stocks now on hand run low. The aim of the strike, it was explained in this connection, was to prevent the mining of commercial coal as a means of forcing operators to concede the union's wage demands.

**Mine Protection Favored.**  
In addition, the committee also affirmed the provision of the strike call providing for all necessary protection being given to the mines during the strike. The only condition added by the committee was that pumpmen, engineers, firemen and others who will remain at work shall receive the present scale of wages. Ten thousand men, it was estimated, would remain at the mines under this provision.

The rift in union forces threatened before the meeting by the expected fight of Frank Farrington, the Illinois district union leader, and opponent of International President John L. Lewis, disappeared almost before the opening of the meeting when Mr. Farrington announced that he would not make a contract with Illinois operators without the sanction of the policy committee.

## GUNMAN FACES CHARGE

Albert Swanson Is Held for First-Degree Assault.

ABERDEEN, Wash., March 24.—(Special)—A charge of first-degree assault was filed against Albert Swanson today as a result of the shooting affray Thursday afternoon in a Heron-street cigar store, when Swanson fired six bullets into the store in an attempt, according to his own story, to kill John Rogers. He said he had carried a grudge since Rogers surreptitiously, according to Swanson, relieved him of \$100 five years ago. One of the shots grazed Rogers, one struck Joe Curtis, logger, in the back, and another pierced both legs of Phil Davis, 80 years old, who was sitting in a chair in the card room. Davis, due to his advanced age, is in a critical condition, but Rogers and Curtis are out of danger.

## CRAIG AND COLLINS CALLED TO LONDON

Discussion of Irish Situation Is Proposed.

EVENTS ARE HELD GRAVE

Formal Request Is Made to Ulster Premier and to Head of Provisional Government.

LONDON, March 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—The colonial office announced tonight that, owing to the gravity of events in Ireland, the government had formally requested Premier Craig of Ulster and Michael Collins, head of the Irish provisional government, to come to London, with any colleagues they might choose, in order that the government might discuss with them every aspect of the situation.

**SEVEN KILLED IN BELFAST**  
Father and Four Sons Are Shot to Death in Home.

BELFAST, March 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Seven deaths from violence occurred in Belfast today. The victims were: Owen MacMahon and four of his sons, shot to death in their home. Two other sons were wounded. Joseph Campbell, city official, shot by a sniper. John Murdock, shot and mortally wounded, died this afternoon. A youth who was shot in the abdomen today was in a critical condition. Three murders were reported from the Permangh-Tyrone border. The victims were Frank Kelley, Edward McLoughlin and William Cassidy. All

were shot to death. It is believed the murders were in reprisal for the recent terrorism at Trillick, County Tyrone, in which Samuel Laird, an Ulster special constable, was shot and killed and numerous unionist houses were burned.

A freight train was held up near the city today by 12 armed men, who opened the registered mail it was carrying and scattered the freight along the tracks. The Y. M. C. A. hall here was commandeered today by a British regiment.

At a unionist meeting last evening, Lady Craig, wife of the premier, announced that she had received a letter from a friend in London stating that in Greater London there were already 15,000 men waiting to take up arms in defense of Ulster. At a meeting of representative Catholics here today a resolution was adopted protesting against "the campaign of murder against the Catholic community." The resolution alleged that no attempt had been made by the authorities to check the atrocities and asserted that the legislation proposed by the Ulster government would merely result in legalizing the work of the assassins.

**FISH CONFERENCE CALLED**  
Fishermen's League Secretary Sends Letters to Packers.

ASTORIA, Or., March 24.—(Special)—Secretary Somppi of the Columbia River Fishermen's league, today sent letters to the various packers on the river asking them to meet in conference with the directors of the league at the chamber of commerce rooms on the afternoon of Monday, April 3, to discuss the prices to be paid for salmon during the season that opens May 1. This will be the second conference. At the former one the packers said it was too early to fix prices, as none had received any orders. Every large city has one newspaper which, by universal consent, is the Want-Ad medium of the community. In Portland it's The Oregonian.



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