

"BUNKO" KELLY INSISTS HE DID NOT MURDER GEORGE W. SAYERS

Notorious Penitentiary Prisoner Says He Hopes to Serve Out His Sentence.

HAS CHARGE OF BATH HOUSE, SO GETS NEWS

Paddy Lynch Serving Time for Kidnaping a Boy—Frank McDaniels a Bookkeeper — "Babe" Walton Plays Slide Trombone in Band.

One hundred and thirty-four prisoners of the 233 men and three women locked up within the walls of the state penitentiary at Salem are from Multnomah county.

Forty-six prisoners are in the penitentiary under life sentences, while three have been sentenced to be hanged.

Not one of the prisoners is a printer, and only five of them have red hair.

The best known of the inmates have been sent to the penitentiary from the local circuit courts, among them being Joseph ("Bunko") Kelly, Frank McDaniels and "Babe" Walton; the first two are under life sentences, while Walton was sent up for 25 years. Nearly every prisoner sent from Multnomah county is said to have committed the crime for which he was convicted within the city limits of Portland, most of them in the business districts. Only one or two of the men sent from here have caused the prison authorities any trouble, and "Here comes a good prisoner—he's from Portland," has become a saying about the penitentiary.

"Bunko" Kelly Well Known.
"Bunko" Kelly, who is officially known as No. 2,394, is by far the best known prisoner both within the brick walls of the institution and without who is under the eye of Warden Frank Curtis. Kelly arrived at the penitentiary February 23, 1895, sentenced to serve the rest of his natural life for the murder of aged George W. Sayers.

It is alleged that Sayers was to have been a witness in an estate case in which Attorney X. N. Steeves was interested, and that the attorney wanted the old man out of the road. At that time Kelly and Paddy Lynch were interested in a local sailor boarding-house, and the story runs that they were hired by Steeves to shanghai Sayers onto an outward bound sailing ship. It is declared that when this was tried, the old man showed fight and was killed. Kelly, Steeves and Lynch were charged with the murder, but only Kelly was convicted.

Throughout his own trial and during the trials of the other prisoners Kelly was close-mouthed and would give no testimony damaging to any of the defendants, and since his imprisonment he has not let a word fall that would throw any light on the death of the old man.

Says He Is Innocent.
"I am innocent of the crime," declared Kelly to a Journal reporter yesterday, "and I hope to live long enough to get out of here."

"How about that man Steeves? Do you know anything about his wanting Sayers out of the way?" was asked the prisoner.

In an instant Kelly's eyes fell and he said, simply, "I have nothing to say on that subject."

"But you know, Kelly, that lawyer threw you down during the trial of your case," pleaded the interviewer, "and hundreds of people in Portland are waiting for you to tell the straight story of that affair."

"Nothing to say," was the answer. "I am here for life, but am told that if I have only about three more years here at that rate, I may live it out; I may not. I have been troubled with my heart a good deal of late, and some nights cannot sleep a wink. But I might mention that that fellow Steeves hasn't sent me one cent nor written to me since I've been here."

Has Charge of Bathhouse.
Kelly is in charge of the bathhouse at the penitentiary and has an opportunity to talk to the new prisoners when they take their first wash-down, so that he learns of the outside world news. This information quickly spreads about the prison, and now the bathroom manager is known among the prison officials as the "politician." Kelly is allowed to wear a mustache; his hair is almost white and his step is far slower than it used to be in the days when he was hustling sailors out of the forecastle or rushing them into an outward bound

Joseph ("Bunko") Kelly.

windjammer. He is living in hopes. He is a good prisoner.

Although Lynch was not convicted on the Sayers charge, he was sent to the penitentiary from Astoria three years ago on the charge of having kidnaped a boy and put him on board a sailing ship. He was sentenced to serve eight years and is now employed in the prison laundry.

McDaniels' Case.
The crime for which Frank McDaniels is serving a life sentence was one that startled Portland as murder has seldom started the city. One morning in the spring of 1901 the lifeless body of Clara Fitch was found in Cycle park. She had been smothered to death and McDaniels, who had been the girl's sweetheart, was at once suspected. He strongly protested his innocence, and still maintains that he knows nothing whatever of the girl's death. McDaniels is one of the best liked of the prisoners. He is the bookkeeper of the commissary department of the penitentiary.

Having received little money from relatives and made more by the sale of trinkets, he has taken numerous courses in correspondence schools, thus securing a good education. He is a great reader of standard literature, the prison library furnishing many books. Aside from an illness of typhoid fever, he has been well since he was received at the penitentiary on July 1, 1901. He plays a trombone in the band and orchestra.

"Babe" Walton's Deal.
"Babe" Walton's cell is one of the most elaborately decked apartments in the great prison. Photographs of relatives and friends and fancy pictures adorn the walls, while a violin, banjo and a radio are there. Walton is serving a 25-year sentence for having shot Patrolman Ole Nelson about 18 months ago during an attempted holdup of a streetcar. He is learning the tailor trade. In leader of the orchestra, plays a slide trombone in the band and has given his keepers no trouble. He is number 5,023.

Sullen, and appearing to be awaiting a chance to avenge some of his imagined wrongs, John Sullivan is closely watched by the guards as he goes about his work in the tinshop of the prison stove foundry. He reached his present home October 14, 1924, to serve a 20-year sentence for highway robbery. During his imprisonment in the county jail he made a desperate effort to kill Jailer Harry Grafton.

Leaving Tailor's Trade.
Martin V. Laska, serving a life sentence for having killed his father-in-law in Portland three years ago, is also learning the tailor's trade. He bears an excellent prison reputation. While in the county jail he prevented one of the most desperate wholesale escapes ever planned in Multnomah county.

G. Castranova works in the foundry. He is under a 12-year sentence for having killed Guglielmo, a saloon-keeper and the father of Frank Guglielmo, who was hanged at Salem last summer for the murder of his sweetheart. Castranova's imprisonment began March 2, 1926, but a part of the time since then he has been in the insane asylum.

A murder that excited Portlanders was the killing of one Kirk, a mate of a sailing ship, in his stateroom in the fall of 1926. James L. Warren is serving a life sentence as the murderer. He was arrested by Detective Joe Day in Savannah, Georgia. Warren is foreman of the laundry and is allowed to wear a mustache. He is one of the best behaved of the prisoners. He has always maintained that he was innocent.

Coleman a Tailor.
John Coleman, who cut off the head of Edna Hoffman in a north end dive a year ago, works in the tailor shop. He wears a bandage around his neck to hide the scar that shows where he attempted to commit suicide when arrested.

A model prisoner is D. C. ("Tattoo") Kelly, who recently began serving a life sentence for the murder of Thomas Flemmings during the robbery of the Centennial saloon, December 10, 1925. The prisoner is working in the molding room of the foundry. He is getting fat.

Gay Harshman, who helped a local express messenger buy a home by getting in the way of one of the messenger's bullets, works around the prison yards and gardens. He was sent from Portland about three years ago for attempting to rob the O. R. & N. train near Troutdale. Harshman was shot in the head and the bullet was removed after he was sent to the penitentiary. The express messenger was given \$1,000 by his employers.

Bank Robbers Good Prisoners.
J. A. Crossley and Eli Dunn, members of the Kingsley gang of bank robbers and highwaymen, which was run out of the northwest by Sheriff Word, are on the "good prisoners" list. Crossley and Dunn were arrested in Portland a year ago by Sheriff Word and his deputies, but were sent to the penitentiary for five years each for having robbed the Lebanon bank. Crossley is officer in the pump house and Dunn is foreman of the tin shop. Both declare they know nothing of the whereabouts of Kingsley.

George Lee, alias George Jackson, a former notorious California stage robber, is slowly dying. He is serving a 20-year and 5-months sentence for holding up a train near Fairview, Multnomah county, in 1927. He is past 60 years of age, and his hair is white; he is allowed to wear a long white beard, and when able to work toils in the carpenter shops. His partner in the train robbery, Charles Williams, is in the pattern room of the foundry. The two men met while serving sentences in San Quentin, and there planned to come to Oregon as soon as they were released.

T. W. Parker wishes to send his regards to Detective Joe Day. The prisoner is serving five years for forgery,

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and has now worked out two years of his term. He is well liked by the prison officials, who call him the **Law Fields** of the penitentiary. Parker is a good singer, and is always one of the leaders in the prison concerts, taking the part of a German comedian. He has charge of the photograph department of the penitentiary, and plays tuba in the band. Parker was arrested in Montana by Detective Day, and while coming to Portland, the prisoner escaped while the detective slept. When he was found guilty of forgery, Parker asked the trial judge to "give him the limit." While Deputy Sheriff Harvey Moreland was taking Parker to Salem, the prisoner tried to escape by jumping through a window of the coach, but Moreland held him.

James Drummond, the boy who held up a railroad man on the Madison street bridge a year ago, is working in the stove foundry. He was sentenced to serve eight years for committing an assault with intent to rob. His mother, who lives in Colorado, visited him last Wednesday; she is almost heartbroken.

Joe Young, who is serving his term for the murder of Kasper Van Dran, is billeted in the kitchen. He is washing dishes and serving as waiter in the dining-room.

Ben Thompson a Molder.
Ben Thompson and Charles Wright are two other prisoners sent up from Portland for highway robbery. Thompson is serving a 10-year sentence, beginning January 25, 1932. He is foreman in the molding-room. Wright is in for 10 years and is a barber for the prison officials and guards; his parents reside in Portland.

J. S. Winton, who was sentenced for two years from Portland for forgery, is leader of the band. His prison term will expire June 28, 1937.

Charles Paine, Fred Houston and John Whitesides are serving five-year sentences for holding up the East Portland depot two years ago. Paine is not well and works in the laundry; Houston is in the tin shop, and Whitesides is in the machine shop.

Everything about the penitentiary is as clean as on a man-of-war. The prisoners seem in good spirits, there being only one or two sullen men among them.

Superintendent C. H. James and Warden Frank Curtis have made wonderful changes since they assumed office, and visitors say that one would not know the place now if one had not visited it since five years ago. They have set out flower gardens, organized a band and have done many other little things to make the prisoners' life more agreeable. Mr. James and Mr. Curtis have the respect of the prisoners and discipline never was as strict within the penitentiary walls as it is now.

Baldwin's Health Tablets.
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Marion's Total Registration.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Salem, Or., April 14.—The registration books for Marion county show that 4,031 voters had their names officially registered, of whom 4,227 are Republicans and 1,211 Democrats and 543 of miscellaneous political affiliations.

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TUBERCULOSIS TAKES MISS ANNA FLAHERTY

Anna Flaherty, aged 16 years, daughter of T. E. Flaherty, a representative of Young, Smythfield & Co. of Philadelphia, died yesterday at San Francisco. Mr. Flaherty, whose headquarters are in Portland, received a telegram yesterday at Spokane, conveying the intelligence. He immediately started for Portland, and left last night for San Francisco.

The cause of death was consumption. Miss Flaherty's education, begun in Sacred Heart convent at Rochester, New York, and completed in Lauretta convent, Toronto, and Notre Dame college, Marysville, California, was followed by an attack of fever, which developed into tuberculosis about a year ago. She came to Portland last summer and spent a few weeks at Forest Grove, with the hope of being benefited. The result was not favorable, and she returned to California, where the disease continued unchecked. Her mother died when the child was 4 years old. She is survived by the father and four brothers and sisters, Bernard J., Ardian and Mamie, of San Francisco, and Howard of Portland.

The funeral will be held in San Francisco.

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Boothish Hits Mason Banquet

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Salem, Or., April 14.—The Boothish Hits Masons of this city held their annual Maundy Thursday banquet at the Hotel Willamette last evening. Frank A. Moore of the supreme court presided. Major G. L. Scott, a retired army officer, was one of the speakers.

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