

Bassett Death Story Related

Amazing Tale of Slaying Recounted by Former Confidence Woman

SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—(AP)—A convicted confidence woman who once moved in international society circles related in superior court today a confession she said Mrs. Mary Eleanor Smith made orally to her, detailing the slaying and butchering of James Bassett here 10 years ago.

She also said Mrs. Smith confessed implication in slayings of two men and a woman in Montana and Idaho.

Mrs. Millicent Paddelford Fawcett was the witness. Her testimony came during a preliminary hearing, held with the jury absent, while Defense Attorneys Warren Hardy and Milton Helman sought to determine whether Mrs. Smith's confessions were obtained by fraud and thus inadmissible.

J. M. McCauley, warden of the state prison at Walla Walla, had previously testified under similar circumstances, declaring both Decasto Earl Mayer, 44, and Mrs. Smith, 73, had made voluntary confessions of the slaying to him.

Relates Smith Story
Mrs. Fawcett held the court room spellbound as she described how Mrs. Smith told her the exact manner of Bassett's death.

Her story of Mrs. Smith's oral confession to her follows:
"Mrs. Smith came to me one night, thinking that I was going to be released and asked me if I'd look up her sister, Lucy Renshaw, and her brother, Leslie Conrad, and tell them she was being persecuted. She said Bassett's watch had been planted on her son by Seattle police.

"I asked how that could be possible, because they were arrested in Oakland. She said they went to watch to Oakland by airplane. I said 'maybe that is true, but for goodness sake tell me just what it happen so I can know where I stand if I do anything for you.'

"She thought this over and then said: 'The truth is we did kill Bassett. I had married this good-for-nothing Smith man in Tacoma and he wouldn't turn his property over to me. (Smith, 92, attends the trial daily, and proudly displays his divorce decree from Mrs. Smith.) My son was just out of Leavenworth penitentiary and I decided to go away with him. (The state declines to admit Mrs. Smith and Mayer are mother and son.)

Encourages Slaying
"My son found he needed a car. He got in touch with Bassett. After looking at the car, he told me, 'Mom, that's a lovely car. It's just what I want. But I'll have to kill the man to get it.'

"I said: 'Well, you need a car and you have to get a start.' Mrs. Fawcett, sounding more like a dowager than a prison inmate, dropped direct quotations, and continued:

"She said they sat in the front room talking about Bassett's trip to Manila. She was sitting on the couch with an iron rod concealed beneath an afghan covering, to help in case Bassett put up a fight. Bassett was sitting in a chair. She had asked him if he'd accept a check in payment and he said he would.

"Mr. Mayer had a hammer on the mantel. He motioned to his mother to get out of the room and she did, but she heard him say: 'I'm going to have your car and I'm not going to pay you a cent and so-and-so cent. I want you to write this telegram.'

"Mrs. Fawcett recited, almost word for word, the telegram Commander and Mrs. Theodore H. Winters, Bassett's brother-in-law and sister, received that night, telling them "Gene" had sold his car and was going to Vancouver with a friend.

"As he took the telegram from Bassett he picked up the hammer and hit him in the back of the head. Mrs. Smith said she came into the room and said: 'Earl, he's gurgling. He's not dead yet. You'd better give him another whack.' So he gave him another whack—and he was dead."

Pritchett Assails Dies Group Probe
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Harold Pritchett, president of the International Woodworkers of America, here today for a CIO conference on Oregon's labor-control law, said he considered the Dies committee investigating un-American activities "nothing but a committee set up to attack the president and the New Deal."

Pritchett made the comment when told that Captain J. J. Keegan of the Portland detective bureau had accused him and Harold Bridges, Pacific coast CIO leader, of attempting through their organization to overthrow the government.

Pritchett repeated previous denials of communistic leanings and affiliations.

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R. B. Fung, 8 years practicing in China. Office hours 9 to 5 p.m. except Sunday and holidays, 9 to 10 a.m. 123 N. Com'l St., Salem, Ore.

It's Water Bowl Now
INDEPENDENCE—The Independence Hop Bowl has turned into a water bowl, water from the slough having backed up into it after the recent heavy rains.

POPCORN BALLS
And many specialities. Order now. Special rates to schools, churches and lodges.
KARMELO CORN SHOP
124 S. High St., Salem

McAdoo Reported Better
WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Dr. George W. Calver said to-night Former Senator W. G. McAdoo of California showed continued recovery from an attack of indigestion he suffered yesterday.

Warm Spell Marked
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Western Oregon, surfeited with storms, fog and chilly weather, welcomed an unseasonable warm spell today. The mercury reached 61 degrees.

Active in GOP National Meeting



Mrs. Ruth Pratt and Kenneth Simpson

Among outstanding Republicans at the G. O. P. national committee meeting in Washington were Mrs. Ruth Pratt, national committeewoman, of New York, and Kenneth Simpson, also of New York. Simpson was center of much attention at the meeting. Unanimously elected to the national committee to succeed Charles Hilles, who retired, Simpson withdrew his name from consideration for the executive committee to prevent a contest. This was part of a deal to block a nominee of the old Herbert Hoover leadership, which wanted to put Mrs. Pratt on the committee. The deal finally was made and neither Simpson nor Mrs. Pratt were placed in nomination. Former Senator Daniel O. Hastings of Delaware was elected to the executive seat.

Transient Influx Plagues Portland

Sudden Surge of Crime Is Laid to Incoming Hosts of Hoboes

PORTLAND, Dec. 7.—(AP)—As transients flocked into Portland today for the winter, the crime list increased and even churches were victims.

Sheriff's Deputies George Minelly and Warren W. Weis accused George Kristensen, 24, of robbing the Catholic church parish house of \$50. Last week a robber was sentenced to prison for taking \$400 from churches here and at Oregon City. Another burglar stole \$55 from the treasurer of a community church.

Thugs seriously injured a man and woman in street hold-ups. Another woman victim routed a robber with her fists.

Williams referred to Britain's famed statesman Disraeli, whereupon the man in the audience shouted "he was a Jew."

Ridgley Observes Birthday No. 106
PORTLAND, Dec. 7.—(AP)—The unchallenged champion of longevity in Oregon, John Nelson Ridgley, observed his 106th birthday today with an invitation to newsmen to "come and see me again next year."

Ridgley, who lives with a daughter, still loves the favorite dish of his boyhood—pigfeet. Three square meals a day are as welcome as ever, too, providing they consist of oyster stew and eggs.

He recalled vividly the Chicago fire and the day he cast a ballot for Lincoln.

Housewarming Is Held At Robert Bye Home
CENTRAL HOWELL—A combined house-warming and anniversary celebration for which Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bye were hosts was an enjoyable affair in their new home Saturday night. Five tables of cards were played by Mrs. I. L. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Will Egan, Mr. and Mrs. Miles Ottoway, Mr. and Mrs. Perle Bye, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Liechty, Muriel Liechty, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Janz, Mr. and Mrs. Merl Bye, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. McClung, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Bye, Dick and Darlene and the hosts.

Four Candidates Taken By Dallas Rebekah Lodge
DALLAS—The regular meeting of the Almira Rebekah lodge was held Tuesday night. During the evening four candidates were initiated into the order. A supper hour was enjoyed by about 70 members. The next meeting will be December 20 when a Christmas party will be held.

Efrati Victorious
CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Leon Efrati, Italian featherweight, punched out a close decision over Frankie Covelli of Brooklyn in a 10 round rematch tonight. They fought a draw several weeks ago.

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Woman Slayer Goes to Chair

Accused of Four Poison Murders, She Pleads to End for Mercy

(Continued from page 1)
sat in the chair she whispered to him:
"Be careful, Father! you'll be killed!"

A Columbus undertaking concern claimed the body, but reported it had no orders as to its disposition. Mrs. Hahn's husband, Phillip, a Cincinnati telegrapher, said in Cincinnati he was not sure about it.

Appeal to Federal Court Proves Vain
Mrs. Hahn's 12-year-old son, Oscar, who is Phillip Hahn's stepson, tried to visit her at the last moment before she was taken to the execution room, but was refused. He had been with her most of the day.

He went to the prison chapel and remained there during the execution. Federal district Judge Mell G. Underwood denied shortly before the execution her attorney's plea for a writ of habeas corpus.

After a conference with attorneys which lasted all afternoon and into the night, the court held that there were not sufficient grounds for interference with her sentence.

Besides the death of Wagner, the prosecution introduced evidence seeking to link Mrs. Hahn with the deaths under similar circumstances of three other elderly Germans, Albert Palmer, George Sellman, and George Obendorf.

Pierson Is Head Of Hort Society

Present Oregon Seed Law Defended; Cherry Fly Fight Aid Sought

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Dan Pierson, Hood River, was elected president of the Oregon Horticultural society here tonight. Hood River was awarded the 1939 convention.

Pierson succeeded Truman Chase, Eugene. Chester Fitch, Medford, was elected vice-president; E. A. McCornack, Eugene, second vice-president; A. S. Hazeltine, Hood River, third vice-president; O. T. McWhorter, Corvallis, secretary; H. S. Merriam, Goshen, treasurer. The society approved five resolutions.

1. That Oregon seed laws be preserved intact to preserve the high quality of today's products.

2. That every care be made to conserve soil.

3. That private ownership and reasonable federal regulation of railroads be continued.

4. That use of fluoride in protecting fruits on the west coast be discontinued because of ingredients harmful to consumers.

5. That the state legislature be petitioned to determine best methods of combatting the cherry fruit fly now threatening the industry.

Former Official Ousted by Party
VIENNA, Dec. 8.—(Thursday)—(AP)—Joseph Buerckel, Adolf Hitler's deputy in Austria, has expelled Franz Winkler, former Austrian vice-chancellor, from the Nazi party, an official communique published in this morning's papers announced.

The communique said the disciplinary action was taken because Winkler was involved in corruption in connection with the "Anker Bread factory," Austria's biggest bread manufacturers.

Pitcher Will Wed Festival Princess
SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Jack Barbour, Seattle's "stinging butcher," announced today Aldon Wilkie, Newberg, Ore., San Francisco Pacific coast league pitcher, would marry Jeannie May Barbour, one of the princesses at the 1937 Portland rose festival.

Wilkie went to San Francisco's Seal from the Western International league.

McAdoo Reported Better
WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Dr. George W. Calver said to-night Former Senator W. G. McAdoo of California showed continued recovery from an attack of indigestion he suffered yesterday.

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Dear Santa—Send Mommy Home



Maria and Louise Casale

If, somewhere in this world, Mrs. Loretta Casale sees this appealing picture of her children, Maria, left, and Louise, right, maybe she'll answer their constant prayers to Santa: "Please bring mommy home for Christmas." The children were left at the home of Mrs. Louise Parker five weeks ago. The mother disappeared. Neither the children nor Mrs. Casale's husband know why she did. But they want her to come back.

Awards in Turkey Show Are Listed

Henry Domes Is Winner in Several Classes at Oakland Event

ROSEBURG, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Judges selected divisional winners today for the championship class at Oakland's Northwestern Turkey show.

Since the largest group of birds, the Bronze class, remained to be judged, final selection probably will not be made until Friday. The annual turkey show dance was held tonight.

First place honors included: Narragansett—Mrs. A. D. Hudson, Tangent, young tom, yearling tom, adult tom.

White Holland—Henry W. Domes, Rickreall, adult tom, yearling tom.

Dressed division winners included: Mrs. A. D. Hudson, Tangent, Narragansett adult tom; Henry Domes, Rickreall, White Holland tom, young tom, old hen.

Colonies not Now Issue, Announced

LONDON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Britain's secretary for dominions and colonies, Malcolm MacDonald, shelved today the problem of Germany's demanded restoration of her colonies, some of which Britain has held since the world war.

MacDonald told the house of commons the question "is not now an issue in practical politics." Cheers greeted his assertion that British public opinion was against any colonial transfer, a proposal which Prime Minister Chamberlain previously has indicated was not being considered at present.

The government defeated a labor motion which included a proposal to pool under a general mandate all colonies held by world powers which are not ready for self-government. The vote was 253 to 127.

Injured Lad Kept Out of Hospital

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Although a 7-year-old schoolboy may have suffered serious injuries in an automobile accident today, the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wheeler of Grooms Prairie, refused to allow him to be taken to a hospital.

County Health Officer Dr. S. B. Osgood said the child, struck by a truck as he crossed a highway, was unconscious for several hours. Dr. Osgood quoted the parents as basing their objections on religious grounds.

The youngster was waiting with other children for the school bus.

Warm Spell Marked
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Western Oregon, surfeited with storms, fog and chilly weather, welcomed an unseasonable warm spell today. The mercury reached 61 degrees.

Fascists Raise Louder Clamor

Tunisia Disorder Occurs While French Students Also Demonstrate

(Continued from page 1)
smeared the building with red, white and blue—the colors of France.

The demonstration, in protest against fascist clamor for recognition of Italian "aspirations" in the French north African protectorate of Tunisia, was brought under control without difficulty by French troops and police.

TOULOUSE, France, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Students of Toulouse university stole a leaf from Italy's book today and marched in the streets of the city carrying huge placards labeled, "We want Sardinia, Sicily and Tripoli."

Thousands of laughing, shouting citizens joined the parade shouting, "Long live Tunis and Corsica,"—two French possessions which Italian students have demanded for Italy in street demonstrations.

Sardinia and Sicily are Italian islands in the Mediterranean, and Tripoli is part of her African colony of Libya.

Led by students the parade marched toward the Italian consulate, but was halted a block from the building by a cordon of several hundred police, who were in no mood for joking.

W. S. Walker Dies; Rites Set Friday

ALBANY (Special)—W. S. (Billy) Walker, 73, prominent resident of Albany and vicinity died suddenly Wednesday night while visiting a sister, Mrs. Pearl L. Van Orsdel at Independence.

Funeral services were set for 1 p. m. Friday, December 8, from the Fortmiller chapel, Lebanon, anon.

W. S. Walker came to Albany in 1890. A retired farmer, he was active in democratic politics for many years here. He was born in Edison county, Tenn., in 1865.

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Van Orsdel, and Mrs. Sarah Caldwell of Knoxville, Tenn.; and four brothers, Charles W. of Albany, Rheuben of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Robert of Raymond, Wash., and M. S. Walker of Albany.

Widower Marries Widow of His Son

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 7.—(AP)—The wedding of John Roll, 56-year-old widower and pattern maker, to his son's widow was disclosed today by the bride's mother, Mrs. J. E. Murray.

As the husband of his former daughter-in-law, 31, Rolis became the stepfather of his eight-year-old grandson.

Helen Roll's first husband, John S. Roll, Pittsburgh bank teller, drowned eight years ago.

Howard on Job Again
MONMOUTH—L. B. Howard, local merchant, who has been receiving treatment at the veterans' hospital for several weeks, is home and able to attend to business duties.

Latest of Lindy



Col. Charles Lindbergh and wife

Wearing glasses, Col. Charles Lindbergh and his wife are caught by the camera walking along a street in Paris. Latest reports hint that the Lindberghs will take up residence in Berlin.

Workers Testify, Mill Shuts Down

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—The Jones Lumber company sawmill closed down today because so many of its employees were in the US courthouse testifying at a national labor relations board hearing on an American Federation of Labor petition for recognition as bargaining agency for mill employees.

Eight workers whose names appeared on AFL application cards testified they still wished Local No. 3 of the congress for industrial organization to represent them.

Although the labor board recognized the CIO as the bargaining agent in the Portland industry during the peak of a jurisdictional controversy a year ago, the AFL asserted it had regained a majority.

Howard on Job Again
MONMOUTH—L. B. Howard, local merchant, who has been receiving treatment at the veterans' hospital for several weeks, is home and able to attend to business duties.

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