

Old Bailey Packed as Dr. Adams Goes on Trial as Widow Killer

By JAMES F. KING
LONDON (AP)—Dr. John Bodkin Adams, accused of killing three rich patients out of greed, today pleaded innocent as he went on trial for murder.

The 58-year-old society doctor read a Bible in his prison cell before being taken to historic Old Bailey court for the trial which has intrigued the nation.

Adams is charged specifically with murdering Mrs. Edith Alice Morrell, elderly eccentric widow. The prosecution claimed at a preliminary court hearing she was only one of his victims.

The doctor was accused of turning the 81-year-old widow into a drug addict while slowly poisoning her in 1950.

The cause of her death was officially recorded as a stroke. The body was cremated in accordance with her will and the ashes were scattered over the English Channel.

Mrs. Morrell left an estate of more than 60,000 pounds (\$163,000). Dr. Adams inherited a chest of Georgian antique silver and was later given her Rolls-Royce by the dead woman's son out of appreciation for the care he had given his mother.

The Old Bailey was crowded as the trial got under way before the red-robed justice, Sir Patrick Arthur Devlin. Several hundred persons had lined up for hours before the doors were thrown open.

When formally charged, Adams replied in a clear, loud voice: "I am not guilty, my lord."

Dr. Adams practiced for more than a quarter of a century in the Victorian seaside resort of Eastbourne, a haven for wealthy retired folk.

He gained a reputation for his charity to the poor and as a friend and adviser of the rich and titled among his patients.

A spate of rumors in the south coast town a year ago led to a Scotland Yard inquiry into the death of some of the elderly people.

Dr. Adams was arrested late last year.

At a preliminary court hearing in January, the prosecution blamed Adams for killing two other rich patients—Arthur J. Hallett, 71-year-old retired insurance broker, in 1956 and Hallett's wife Gertrude, 50, four months later.

The prosecutor declared at that hearing: "We say greed for money was the motive and that Dr. Adams' greed was too great to permit him to wait. That is why he killed... when he did."

Hallett's death was officially attributed to a cerebral hemorrhage and his wife's to suicide from an overdose of sleeping pills. The prosecution claimed Dr. Adams drove her to suicide.

Red Slaps at Hoover Attack As Censorship

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Hoover said in a letter to the Senate Internal Security subcommittee March 12 that U. S. Communists "in fact have not broken with the Soviet Union" despite an "alleged declaration of independence."

Gerson, newly appointed executive editor of the Communist Daily Worker, said in a statement that Hoover's "real objection is to the political direction of the convention."

"The 1957 Communist party convention," said Gerson, "dealt a heavy and effective blow to the inspired myth that the Communist party is some foreign-controlled conspiracy...."

"This true picture, of course, smashes the hoary Hoover myth and makes him rage against Communists, radicals and what he calls 'pseudo-liberals,' who stand for the bill of rights."

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Jeweler Kills 3 Daughters, Mother, Self

WEST FRANKFORT, Ill. (AP)—Wielding a claw hammer and a pistol, a 44-year-old jewelry store operator killed his three young daughters, his mother and himself yesterday—the day he was to marry his bookkeeper.

Coroner Barney Browning said Herman Behn hit his sleeping victims in the head with the hammer and shot them with a .38 pistol. Behn himself died of a bullet in the right temple.

Investigators said they could find no motive. An inquest was ordered for today.

The victims were Mrs. Minnie Behn, 70; Kay, 10; Shirley, 12; and Linda, 14.

Mrs. Maudetta Minton, a 20-year-old divorcee who was to have been Behn's bride in a ceremony at the First Christian Church, was reported in deep shock.

Coroner Browning said Behn's brother William got a call from him early yesterday morning. William quoted Herman:

"Bill, I've killed mother and the girls. I just figure they could not live without me and I could not live without them."

Browning said Mrs. Minton told him she last saw Behn at 11:30 Saturday night. She quoted him: "I'm going home and get a good night's sleep so I'll feel good at the wedding."

Arthur Marks, assistant chief of police, said Mrs. Minton told him she and Behn planned to move into her farm home and take his mother and the children to live with them after a two-week honeymoon in Hot Springs, Ark.

Behn had been a jeweler here for 18 years and was active in civic affairs. He was divorced about four years ago and granted custody of the children. His first wife, June, is believed to be living in Chicago.

Elkins Comes Home, Silent

PORTLAND (AP)—James B. Elkins, who spoke at length to the Senate subcommittee investigating Portland racketeering and vice charges, came home with no more words.

He told reporters on his arrival Saturday night he was too tired to talk.

With Elkins, self-admitted gambler and racketeer, was his employe, Raymond Clark, who was credited with aiding in making the tape recordings which figures in the subcommittee probe.

United States entrants, with a total of 56 fencers, have won the largest number of Nobel Prizes.

Elkins Comes Home, Silent

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—A mild-mannered couple, who fled home and business to keep their Massachusetts courts, open their fight in a hearing today against extradition.

Melvin B. Ellis, 45, said he and his wife Frances, 35, would "make our stand" here to prevent losing 6-year-old Hildy McCoy.

"I don't care if I go to jail," the bespectacled clothing salesman told interviewers. "The main thing is the girl's happiness."

"We're not running any more."

The hearing before Peace Justice Malvin Englander was called on fugitive charges, Massachusetts authorities held kidnap warrants for the Ellises.

They vanished with Hildy from their Brookline, Mass., home in 1955 after the Massachusetts Supreme Court ordered them to turn the blonde, blue-eyed child over to Mrs. Marjorie McCoy Doherty, the natural mother, who allowed the child to be placed for adoption when 10 days old.

The Ellises are Jewish and Hildy's mother is Roman Catholic. Mrs. Doherty demanded return of her child under Massachusetts law that provides children "when practicable" be placed for adoption with parents of their faith.

Couple Flees Home, Business in Order to Keep Adopted Daughter

The Ellises' lawyer, Ben Cohen of Miami Beach, said he would personally appeal to Gov. Leroy Collins not to permit extradition of his clients. Cohen said extradition "would be like making a refugee from Hungary return."

The family was discovered living in Miami Beach through a routine check of Ellis' automobile registration when he negotiated for a new car Friday.

Ellis said he gave up his dry-cleaning business and left his Brookline home after "we had tried everything" in the courts to be permitted to retain the child. He said the mother rejected their offer to rear the child in the Catholic faith.

"None of the many court decisions regarding the custody of Hildy has considered her welfare," he said. "The child has had our love and affection and she has learned to love us."

Ellis told of taking his family to Portland, Maine; Levittown, Pa.; Thompsonville, Conn.; and Tuckaboo, White Plains, Scarsdale and New York City, N.Y., in frequent moves that led to their settlement last May in Miami Beach.

"This is our home now," Ellis said. "Miami is to be our home and our child's home."

Ellis said Hildy's mother has indicated she does not want the child back but "wants Hildy turned over to a Catholic agency so she can be adopted by a Catholic family."

Mrs. Doherty, who lives at

BPA Names Low Bidder On Valley Power Line

PORTLAND (AP)—The Bonneville Power Administration Saturday said the Pettijohn Engineering Co. here has submitted a low bid of \$24,475 for constructing a 25-mile Willamette Valley power line.

The line between Oregon City and Chemawa is the final link in the transmission system with Big Eddy, which will bring McNary and The Dalles Dam power to the BPA grid serving the valley.

Driving Ban Ends

THE HAGUE (AP)—Economics Minister Jelle Zijlstra Monday ended the Netherlands' ban on Sunday driving imposed as a result of the Suez oil crisis.

Hingham, Mass., could not be reached for comment.

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Flood About To Wipe Out Power Plant

LINGSTONE, Northern Rhodesia (AP)—Engineers tonight made plans to surrender in their losing battle against a record flood on the Zambezi River.

They decided to abandon the power station harnessing some of the might of the Victoria Falls. The floodwaters, now covering an area of 500 square miles, have swamped a number of villages and drowned many Africans.

For five days, as the rushing floodwaters rose to pound the walls of the station, the 40 engineers worked around the clock to keep the turbines operating and pumps going to drain out the river waters seeping in.

The river, which has risen over 30 feet since March 8, is 10 feet above the previous record height and 5 feet above the sandbagged windows of the station.

Tonight resident engineer P. J. Elliot and his staff decided nine men would keep the pumps working while the rest of the crew moved out, then the nine would make a dash for safety.

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Larson's S.M.D., a granular preparation, combines with milk to form bulk to help keep your intestinal tract regular. Larson's S.M.D. supplies healthy bulk and encourages normal habit time. You will feel more fit in body and clearer of mind. And you also should be more energetic.

HOW TO USE:
Just a teaspoonful of S.M.D. granules with a glass of milk four times a day, only 3 days a week! Monday, Wednesday, Friday you diet the Swedish Milk Diet Way. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday you eat your normal meals!

NO UNDERFEEDING:
The Larson's S.M.D. Swedish Milk Diet contains full daily requirements of minerals, necessary vitamins, calcium, protein, carbohydrates, iron, phosphorus, energy elements. And the Swedish Milk Diet gives you the necessary variation between diet days and days with normal meals when you eat like you do now. You only use Larson's S.M.D. 3 days a week. The other 4 days of the week, Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and on Saturday you don't diet at all but eat just like you do now!

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Apple Juice Westfair 32-oz. bottle	25c	Airway Coffee 1-lb. Bag	91c	2-lb. Bag	\$1.81
Pineapple Juice Dole, Frozen 6-oz. can	29c	Edwards Coffee 1-lb. Bag	97c	2-lb. Bag	\$1.93
Mushrooms Shady Oak, pieces and stems 4-oz. can	33c	Instant Coffee Edwards brand		4-oz. jar	98c
Tuna Fish Breast o' Chicken, Chunk No. 1/2 can	29c	Filled Mints Roxbury Candy		5-oz. pkg.	10c
Pork & Beans Van Camp brand No. 2 1/2 can	22c	Royal Satin Shortening		1-lb. can	88c
Diced Carrots Stokely No. 303 can	15c	Gold Medal Kitchen-tested Flour		5-lb. bag	59c
Ritz Crackers NBC, Party Cracker 1-lb. pkg.	37c	Gold Medal Kitchen-tested Flour		10-lb. sack	\$1.05
Soda Crackers Sunshine Krispy 1-lb. pkg.	29c	Lac-Mix Instant Milk		12-qt. size	69c
Potato Bread Skylark Large loaf	30c	Mother's Oats Free China Gift Inside		42-oz. pkg.	55c
Multi-Grain Bread Skylark 15-oz. loaf	27c	Flapjack Flour Albers Brand		2-lb. pkg.	37c
Salad Dressing Piedmont Quart Jar	45c	Book Matches Carton of 50		2 cins.	33c
Nalley Tang Salad Dressing Quart Jar	47c	Come! Cleanser For Real Economy		2 2 1/2-oz. Size	31c
Dill Pickles Columbia brand No. 2 1/2 can	29c	Ad Detergent For Automatic Washers		24-oz. pkg.	43c
Margarine Dalewood 2 1-lb. Pkgs.	43c	20-Mule Team Borax Cuts Grease		32-oz. size	39c
		Boraxo Powdered Hand Soap		8-oz. can	17c

Prices in this advertisement are effective through Wednesday, March 20, at Safeway in Salem.

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