

HICKMAN STORY OF ACCOMPLICE FALSE

Man Accused of Actual Murder Found in Los Angeles Jail.

Los Angeles.—The Andrew Cramer, on whom William Edward Hickman seeks to put the blame for the actual murder of Little Marion Parker, was found in the Boyle Heights jail, Los Angeles. Cramer has been in jail several months, was in jail at the time of the kidnaping and murder and could not have had anything to do with the crime, police declared.

Cramer, a convicted bootlegger, has been a prisoner here since last August. He told detectives that he was acquainted with Hickman and with a June Dunning. This was the name given by Hickman when he told Pendleton officers that Andrew Cramer had aided him in the crime. He said he picked up Cramer and June Dunning in San Diego last Thanksgiving day and gave them an automobile ride to Los Angeles.

Pendleton, Or.—William Edward Hickman, Los Angeles kidnaper and killer, was arrested by Tom Gurdane, Pendleton chief of police, and C. L. (Buck) Llewellyn, state traffic officer, east of Echo on the Old Oregon trail, after a man hunt that covered the whole Pacific coast and lasted for seven days. He was taken without resistance.

When arrested, Hickman had \$1420 worth of United States \$20 gold certificates on his person.

The youthful fugitive was captured without a struggle when Gurdane and Llewellyn, who had been watching for him on the strength of "hot" tips, pounced on him with drawn guns as the big green sedan he was driving turned a corner of the highway near Echo. He was speeding toward the wilds of eastern Oregon.

A trail of "blood money"—the \$20 gold certificates which Perry M. Parker, Los Angeles banker, had paid for the mangled body of his little daughter—led to the capture.

Calmly sitting in the outer part of the cell block of the Pendleton city jail, Hickman related his version of the crime.

The murder was done by Andrew Cramer, his partner in the crime, he said, and he had no part in the killing and did not know that she had been slain until her body was delivered to him in his Bellevue apartment on Saturday night.

He claims that he did not know where the girl had been kept after he turned her over to his partner Thursday night after taking her to a show. Faced with a report that Andrew Cramer, his alleged accomplice in the kidnaping of Marian Parker, was in jail at the time of the crime, Hickman not only reiterated his original story that Cramer had butchered the girl, but gave additional details of Cramer's part in the plot.

Hickman said that Cramer came into his apartment at the Bellevue apartments, Los Angeles, about 5:30 o'clock Saturday and not only delivered the torso of the girl in a suitcase to Hickman, but accompanied him to within a short distance of the spot where Hickman turned over the body to the girl's father.

"It was necessary to put the suitcase up against the instrument board while Cramer was in the car, and I placed it on the seat after he left," said Hickman. "I let him out on Alvarado avenue after we had stopped and talked over our future plans. "Cramer said, 'I am feeling kind of funny about this, and want to get out of town just as soon as possible.' He stated we would meet in San Francisco to settle up."

SMOOT WANTS SLASH

Paring Down of House Tax Cut is Declared Imperative.

Washington, D. C.—A paring down of the \$290,000,000 tax reduction bill passed by the house to well under \$250,000,000 was demanded by Chairman Smoot of the senate finance committee, which will work over the measure after the holidays.

Under pressure from the White House that the original limitation of \$225,000,000 set by the administration be adhered to, senate republican leaders are admittedly puzzled as to how it is to be accomplished and some delay in action on the bill seems probable. Strong hints have been dropped that the administration is willing to wait until March 15, when first tax payments of 1928 are due, to prove its contentions on the prospective surplus for this year.

Mother Sobs for Son Killer

Kansas City, Mo.—Mrs. Eva Hickman collapsed here when newspapermen told her that her son, William Edward Hickman, alleged slayer of Marian Parker in Los Angeles, had been captured near Echo, Or. "It can't be true," she sobbed.

HAROLD A. LA FOUNT



Harold A. La Fount of Utah, who has been appointed by President Coolidge a member of the federal radio commission.

BIGGER NAVY NOT PLANNED BY ENGLAND

London.—Great Britain has no intention of increasing her naval building program despite "temporary failure" of the Coolidge cruiser limitation conference, King George declared in a speech, proroguing parliament.

The king's speech corresponded to the recent message to congress in which President Coolidge revealed the government's plan for a bigger navy. King George said that British delegates at the Coolidge conference had submitted limitation proposals which, "if they had been accepted, would have led to substantial reductions in naval strength and costs."

"I regret," he added, "that though much of a community of views was revealed, it was not possible to reach a general agreement."

Britain's naval building program, the king said, was "based on a considered view of the defensive needs of my widespread empire."

Reviewing foreign relations, the king said:

"I have watched with profound satisfaction the steady growth in influence of the League of Nations and the increasing part it plays in composing international difficulties and preserving peace. My government will continue to base its policy on loyal cooperation with the league."

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Senator Andrius A. Jones, 65, democrat, New Mexico, died at his apartment in Washington, D. C.

The general death rate in the industrial population of the United States and Canada for 1927 will be the lowest ever recorded.

Several persons, charged with fraudulent registration in the Toledo, Ohio, mayoralty election, were indicted by the grand jury.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon announced that the treasury has decided not to issue against Germany an anti-dumping order against importation of steel products.

Wilber E. Coman, for the past six years western traffic manager of the Northern Pacific railroad at Seattle, has been named vice-president of that road to succeed the late George T. Reid.

Santa Claus must have given his approval of the use of the air mail as a means of transporting his Christmas greetings, Postmaster General New concluded when he had examined reports on air mail weightings.

Pullman Value Declared \$110,238,786.

Washington, D. C.—A tentative valuation of the Pullman company as of June 30, 1919, was fixed by the interstate commerce commission at \$110,238,786. The company, which operates most of the railroad sleeping cars in the United States, had a capitalization on the valuation date of \$117,105,960 and its own book investment was \$144,522,082.

France Votes Big Navy Program.

Paris.—By a vote of 270 to 20, the French senate ratified adoption by the chamber of deputies of the naval building program. The program calls for 15 new warships.

President Signs Deficiency Bill.

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge has signed the deficiency bill carrying emergency appropriations of \$203,000,000 for various government activities.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

Linn county's total indebtedness for the Albany bridge has been cut to \$47,300. The original debt, contracted in 1926, was \$112,500.

Mrs. Emma L. Hufstater has been nominated by President Coolidge as postmistress at Knappa, a position she has held for many years.

Approximately 600 carloads of broccoli will be shipped from the Umpqua valley during the coming season, according to present estimates.

The Red Cross chapter at The Dalles is one of the most prosperous in the state. It now has a membership of 900, nearly double that of last year.

There are 1628 children of school age in Albany this year, according to D. D. Hackelman, school clerk. This is a gain of only five over the 1926 census.

The Bert Mullins confectionery and newsstand in Heppner was robbed early Wednesday and about \$70 taken from the safe, which may have been unlocked.

The Fowler-street bridge was opened at Roseburg last week, eliminating the long highway detour, over which traffic has been routed for the past six weeks.

Yamhill county closed the books on its treasury November 30 with cash on hand amounting to \$230,115.53, the largest cash balance in the history of the county.

Charles H. Hamlin, past 70, log scaler at Mike Morrison's camp above Bridge, near Myrtle Point, was killed instantly when he was struck by a falling tree.

Rural delivery route No. 1 has been established at St. Helens. The route serves 120 families over a distance of 26 miles with one carrier at a salary of \$1890 a year.

Officials of the First National bank of Eugene last Friday celebrated the 44th anniversary of the founding of the institution. The bank first opened December 16, 1883.

Owing to weather conditions, all work has been suspended at the Moon Lumber company's planing mill in Ashland until March, throwing 20 men out of employment.

A snowfall that has covered the ground to a depth of more than six inches has caused the temporary shutdown of nearly all the logging camps in the Nehalem country.

A total of 356 stray horses have been rounded up in Pine and Eagle valleys near Baker and sold to a Mr. Martin of Portland for shipment to a meat cannery there.

The newly created office of city marshal at Coquille, as provided in the 1928 budget, will be filled by P. R. Bernhardt, appointment being made last week by the city council.

Mrs. Mary Henderson, 90, an Oregon pioneer of 1843, and since 1878 a resident of Baker county, died last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Baisley, in Baker.

Full-sown crops are looking fine around Dayton and the continued mild weather is ideal for them. Farmers have been able to finish seeding, as the soil was in perfect condition.

An organization known as the Eastern Clackamas Business Men's Credit association was recently organized at Estacada and a meeting was held in the city hall last Friday evening.

Believed to be Portland's oldest citizen, Mrs. Angeline Yane, 103 years 5 months and 21 days of age, died in the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Pugh, 575 Savier street, last Thursday.

Alfred Richardson, 38, negro employe of a barber shop in Astoria, was blinded last week when lye being used to cleanse a drain exploded. Physicians feared blindness may be permanent.

Damage aggregating \$159,170 resulted from 778 forest fires burning over a total of 24,078 acres of forest land during the past season, according to a report just made public by F. A. Elliott, state forester.

Fatally injured when struck on the forehead by a piece of oak wood which broke while he was working it on a lathe in the Bend high school manual training shop, Norland Pitman, 18, died in a Bend hospital.

Benton county farmers held their first auction sale in Corvallis last Tuesday. The stock was cleaned out in an hour and a half. Representative farmers from all sections of Benton county and a few from Lincoln county attended.

Fred Bangs, 50, a farmer of Elmira, near Eugene, was killed when the automobile in which he was riding with his wife and daughter was struck by an Oregon Electric northbound train last week, about one mile north of Avard station.

Search for Thomas H. Cormier, Portland man lost since December 5 in the wilds of upper Drift creek, near Taft, has been abandoned. Searching parties combed the entire region but only found some torn clothing.

Drilling was scheduled to be resumed at the well of the Guaranty Oil company near Eugene last week. Bunkhouses and a mess hall have been prepared and everything is ready for active operations, it was announced.

A Siuslaw chamber of commerce was organized at Florence last Saturday when a group of men representing West Lane county met there. Each district chose two men to represent them. Earl Hill of Cushman was elected president and Jack C. Pensler of Florence, secretary.

A 60-foot plunge off the new Soapstone bridge on the Roosevelt highway, near Astoria, proved fatal to Edwin Bergdahl, 41, laborer, Tuesday. Bergdahl was carrying materials for the bridge across the skeleton structure when he misstepped and fell to the bottom of the narrow gorge.

By a margin of 26 votes at the special election held in Seaside last Monday, the measure to provide for a fund of \$2500 "to advertise the beauties and advantages of the city of Seaside, as a pleasure and health resort" was defeated. The vote stood 104 in favor of the measure and 139 against.

State highway crews have not only kept the McKenzie highway open to Lost Creek ranch, a winter sports center 12 miles above McKenzie bridge, but have scraped the snow far enough off the center to allow two cars to pass at almost any place, according to Smith L. Taylor, national forest ranger of McKenzie bridge.

A dog saved the life of Otto C. Karstens, farmer of the Knox Butte district east of Albany last week. An angered bull attacked Karstens and gored him in the body and legs, breaking one of his ankles. A farm hand tried to catch the bull, but was chased up a tree. The infuriated animal finally was diverted by the dog.

By vote of its board of directors the Lexington State bank in Morrow county did not open its doors last Tuesday and it was turned over to the state banking department. For the last six years the bank has operated at a loss. Arrangements have been made to pay the depositors 80 cents on the dollar without delay.

A proposal to improve reclamation in Klamath by expending between \$200,000 and \$250,000 on new drains and deepening existing drains has aroused the interest of the United States bureau of reclamation that a drainage engineer, I. R. Lakisch, has been sent to the Klamath country to investigate the feasibility of the project.

H. F. Hunt, principal of Stadium high school, Tacoma, has accepted an invitation to address the high school principals of Oregon when they assemble at the University of Oregon, Eugene, January 13 and 14, for the first annual principal's conference to be held in conjunction with the regular conference of student editors and officers.

For the first time in 18 years Gresham was without fire protection last week, due to the disbanding of the Gresham volunteer fire department. Vote to disband was unanimous, all 25 members joining in the ballot. Lack of co-operation by the city council, and refusal of that body to purchase adequate apparatus, were given as cause for the department's disbanding.

The Douglas county court was informed last week that the government has approved the 1926 Douglas county claim for O. & C. tax refund money in the sum of \$192,838.38. This is \$445.17 less than was claimed by the county. Approximately \$121,500 will be retained in the county fund and the remainder will be distributed among road and school districts, Port of Umpqua and Umpqua highway improvement district.

Merchandise and commodity exports from Oregon in the second quarter of the current year declined rather sharply from those of the same quarter in 1926, according to report just released by the United States department of commerce. The department's fixed value of the quarter's exports from this state at \$11,067,323, compared with \$17,818,029 in the same period of 1926, a decline of \$6,751,001. The value of second quarter exports of this state placed it 22d among the states of the union this year, as compared with 16th place in the same quarter last year.

The defunct Bank of Stanfield has declared its third 20 per cent dividend to depositors. The total balance due depositors at the time the bank closed its doors was slightly over \$30,000. The bank receiver has been able to pay \$18,000 to date.

Benjamin B. Ostlund said the furniture factory under construction at Marshfield would be finished in March and would employ 50 persons. The factory will be an addition to the Coos Bay Veneer & Box company manufacturing business.

LIEUT. A. C. DAVIS



Lieut. A. C. Davis, U. S. N., who has been appointed naval aid to President Coolidge.

ROADS DENY RIGHT TO INCREASE WAGES

Chicago.—Western railroads challenged the authority of four members of a board of arbitration to award wage increases to 56,000 firemen and engineers by petitioning the United States district court to set aside a recent decision.

Counsel for the 55 lines, comprising virtually all the leading trunk systems west of Chicago, contended the board was dissolved on December 5 when it reported to the court here it could not reach an agreement.

When Hazlett P. Burke, chief justice of the Colorado supreme court, summoned the board again to meet in Denver the two railroad members refused to attend, rightfully contending, the petition claimed, that the board had automatically ceased to exist on December 5.

On December 17 the two employees' representatives and the two designated as neutral members agreed on an award of 30 cents a day more for passenger firemen and 35 cents more for all other members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.

COURT HALTS LEGISLATURE

Oklahoma Governor Wins Injunction Declaring Session Illegal.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Two new court orders lent assistance to the efforts of Governor Henry S. Johnston to send members of the legislature besieging his administration back to their homes.

A permanent injunction issued by District Judge Chambers bars the house members from attempting to function further as a legally convened group, from continuing their investigations of state officers, from preparing any more impeachment charges and from filing new charges with the "pretended court of impeachment." The second injunction, a temporary order issued by District Judge Hooker, forbids members to draw pay for their activities in the session.

Italian Breaks Altitude Record.

Turn, Italy.—The Italian airplane pilot Renato Donati broke the world's altitude record by attaining 11,827 meters (38,798 feet). This was exactly 100 meters higher than the record of the American aviator, Lieutenant A. A. Champion.

THE MARKETS

Portland

Wheat—B. R. bluestem, \$1.33; hard white, \$1.25; federation, soft white, western white, \$1.23; hard winter, \$1.21; northern spring, \$1.22; western red, \$1.20 1/2.

Hay — Alfalfa, \$16.50@17; valley timothy, \$17.50@18; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21.

Butterfat—61@56c.
Eggs—Ranch, 82@35c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$10.50@11.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$8@9.50.
Lamb — Medium to choice, \$11@12.50.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.25 1/2; hard winter, \$1.24; western red, \$1.22 1/2; northern spring, \$1.25 1/2; bluestem, \$1.38 1/2; dark northern spg., \$1.44 1/2; dark hard winter, \$1.30.

Hay — Alfalfa, \$25; timothy, \$28; P. S., \$22.

Butterfat—54c.
Eggs—Ranch, 34c.
Cattle—Steers, choice, \$10.50@11.50.
Hogs—Prime, \$9.40@9.50.
Hogs—Prime, \$9.75@9.85.

Spokane.

Cattle—Steers, good, \$10@10.50.
Hogs—Good, \$9.25@9.35.

CONGRESS ADJOURNS OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Record of Accomplishment of First 15 Days Considered Satisfactory.

Washington, D. C.—Under the shadow of the death of one of its most beloved members—Senator Jones of New Mexico—the 70th congress adjourned for its Christmas recess.

As they departed from Capitol hill for a vacation of two weeks, senators and representatives left behind them a record of accomplishment over the 15 days since convening that had few counterparts in recent years.

The first of the annual appropriation bills, to make up deficiencies, was on its way to the White House; the \$290,000,000 tax reduction bill had rounded the first buoy of the legislative course, as had the measure proposing settlement of the German-American alien property claims, and a resolution to give a congressional medal of honor to Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh had become a law.

In addition, the Walsh bill, designed to compel testimony of recalcitrant witnesses in the naval oil criminal conspiracy cases, was in President Coolidge's hands, and both houses had set forth upon what promises to be a long series of investigations.

Even before the legislative wheels of either house had been started, both had received demands for a number of inquiries, several of which are well under way.

A special senate committee, plunging immediately into charges in the Hearst newspapers that a fund of \$1,215,000 was created for four United States senators, satisfied itself that no senator received any money and pushed its inquiry to determine the authenticity of the documents which Hearst purchased for publication.

The house naval committee took up an investigation of published charges by Rear Admiral Thomas P. Magruder that the navy was over-organized and guilty of wasting its appropriations.

HOPE GIVEN UP FOR MEN IN SUNKEN S-4

Provincetown, Mass.—With life admittedly extinguished within the hull of the S-4, the task of raising the sunken submarine from its grave off Provincetown harbor passed from a rescue drama into a routine salvage job.

Lieutenant Commander Edward Ellsberg, directing the operations, declared that unless unusually fair weather persisted it was not likely the steel coffin with its cargo of 40 dead men could be raised to the surface before next spring.

The S-4 had been at the bottom of the sea off Provincetown harbor for just 113 hours when it was finally decided that the six men who had fought a gallant battle for life in her torpedo compartment no longer survived. It was not until air lines, attached to the listening device of the torpedo room by a method never before used, had been pumping fresh air into the compartment for 13 hours that hope was at last given up.

Signals sent by the oscillator of the Falcon remained unanswered, and all was still in the battered hull of the submarine. The rescuers regretfully admitted it was the end.

LINDY'S MOTHER WELCOMED

First Woman to Fly From United States to Mexican Capital.

Mexico City.—The Lone Eagle's mother made aviation history herself when, following the overhead trail of her illustrious son, Mrs. Evangeline Lindbergh landed at Valbuena flying field. She was the first woman ever to fly from the United States to Mexico City.

Mrs. Lindbergh arrived at Valbuena field from Tampico in a giant trimotored Ford airplane. She was immediately officially welcomed by General Jose Alvarez, chief of staff to President Calles, and then taken in the ambassadorial automobile to the American embassy. While Mrs. Lindbergh was landing, her son, in another plane, hovered over the field unable to descend, due to the tremendous crowd which gathered about his mother's plane.

Flood Victims Have Sufficient Funds.

Washington, D. C.—Red Cross funds and other resources on hand will be sufficient to carry the destitute population still needing help in the Mississippi valley flood region through until spring without further public national appeal, Secretary Hoover has announced, upon his return from a final survey of the area.

Italy Adopts Gold as Money Standard.

Rome.—The Italian cabinet adopted the gold standard for stabilization of Italian currency on the basis of 19 lire to the dollar.