

Kidnaped Los Angeles Girl Returned Dead

19 Year Old Youth Identified as Slayer of the Child.

Hickman Caught at Echo William E. Hickman, arch fiend who murdered Little Marion Parker at Los Angeles, and sold her mutilated body to her father for \$1500, was captured in the west part of the county, shortly after noon yesterday, with \$1400 of the currency on his person, by Tom Gurdain, Pendleton chief of police and Buck Lieuallen, state traffic officer. Hickman was immediately brought to the Pendleton city jail. He admitted his identity, but until last evening had not confessed to committing the awful crime. California reports state that over \$100,000 reward is available to the captors of the murderer.

Los Angeles.—The Los Angeles police announced that the kidnap-murderer of little Marian Parker had been positively identified from finger prints.

Police said that the child's slayer had been identified as Edward Hickman, formerly an employe of the Los Angeles First National Trust & Savings bank, of which Marian's father, Perry M. Parker, is an assistant cashier. The identification had been made after three fingerprints had been discovered on the rear window of an automobile identified as the one used by the slayer.

Hickman's fingerprints on record in the police identification bureau also were identical with those discovered on ransom letters which had been sent to Parker.

Parker identified a photograph of Hickman as that of a man who had been discharged from the bank. His discharge followed his arrest on a charge of forging checks.

Hickman, who is 19 years of age, pleaded guilty in juvenile court and was released to the custody of his mother, who then was living in Alhambra.

The motive for the atrocious crime, the police said, was vengeance. Perry M. Parker was believed by young Hickman to have opposed his parole.

The mutilated body of Marian Parker, 12, kidnaped on Thursday last week, was tossed out of an automobile Saturday night at the feet of her father, who had gone to an appointed street corner in the northwest section of the city, carrying \$1500 in ransom money demanded by the abductor.

Parker received a telephone call instructing him to proceed to the corner of Fifth street and Manhattan place with \$1500 in gold certificates and his daughter would be returned to him there.

A few minutes after he arrived a small roadster drew up alongside Parker's automobile. The banker saw his daughter in the seat beside the driver and was told by the kidnaper that the little girl was asleep.

According to the agreement, the man after taking the money drove ahead of the father a little way, climbing out of the car, he threw the body of the girl on the grass in front of a house a few doors up the street.

As soon as the man had driven away, Parker ran frantically to his daughter's side, clasped her in his arms and found she was dead.

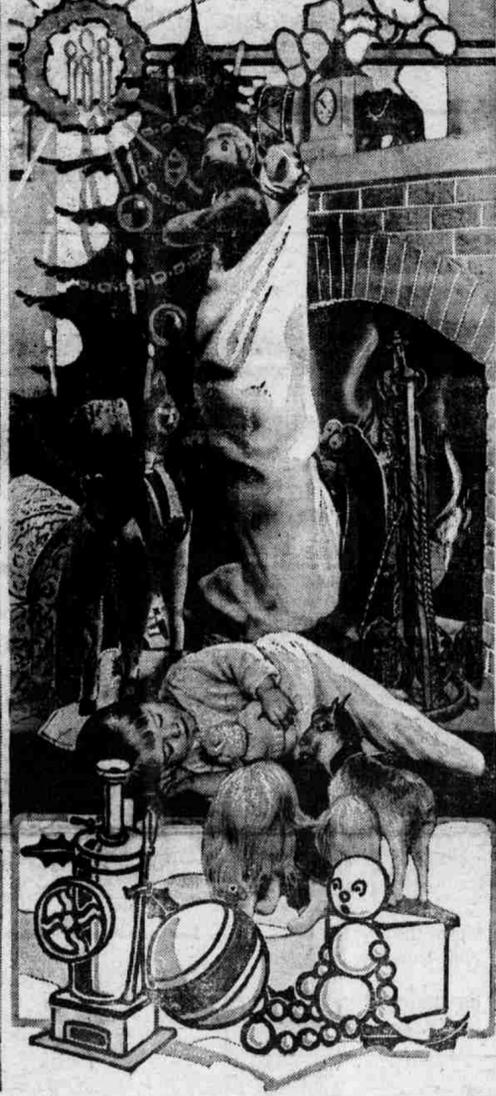
First examination of the mutilated child revealed that both legs had been cut off apparently close to the body.

A wire had been twisted so tightly around the girl's throat that the flesh had been cut deeply into a gaping wound.

Billion Dollar Farm Body Borah Plan Washington, D. C.—Creation of a federal agricultural corporation with a capital stock of \$1,000,000,000 was proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Borah, republican, Idaho. The board of directors would be composed of the secretary of agriculture and eight individuals to be appointed by the president, one of whom would act as managing director at a salary of \$25,000 a year. Other members of the board would draw \$20,000 salaries.

Lindbergh Flies to Mexico. Bolling Field, Washington.—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh took off on a flight Tuesday, with Mexico City as his goal.

Willie's Dream of Christmas



She Read the Note Once more as It Lay on the Desk.

MRS. BARBER, deep in thought, seated at a broad desk, heavily laden with papers which bore evidence of her many responsibilities, planned and pondered the question at length. She was of slight build. Her hair was tinged with gray, her complexion clear, her eyes brown and sparkling, her facial expression most pleasant, although one could not help but note at the moment a trace of worry.

There were exactly one hundred and fifty old people in the institution depending upon her care and judgment. Never was this fact brought so forcefully to her attention as it was at Christmas time. To be sure, people were generous and thoughtful in remembering this group. That was exactly it. How could one put this generosity into a form which would benefit the largest number in the group? The agitation of the question had begun but today, when Mrs. Barber had received a note and a donation of fifty dollars from a group of fine, public-spirited citizens who were endowed with the true Christmas spirit. The accompanying note merely stated that its use could best be determined by Mrs. Barber, and so would be left entirely to her good judgment. She read the note once more as it lay on the desk before her.

"Our group or society has a little fund raised in various ways by its members. Each year at Christmas time, we give fifty dollars of this fund to the head of some institution, and leave it to the judgment of the person in charge as to how it will be disposed of to best advantage in their particular or peculiar situation. It has occurred to us that the children are more apt to be well taken care

of than are the institutions such as yours. We therefore wish to remember the Old People's home with our small sum. We have enjoyed accumulating this money and hope it, added to your other yearly contributions, may help to bring cheer and happiness to your home on Christmas day."

The evening failed to disclose the adequate solution for this problem. However, on the morrow, Mrs. Barber awoke with a radiant face. With the clearness of the morning, the crispness of the air and the invigorating which had come through sound, restful sleep, the perplexities vanished, and Mrs. Barber saw her way clearly defined before her. Her feet and hands couldn't wait fast enough to comply with the wish of her brain. Time was limited. Plans must be drawn up quickly and executed immediately.

The first day saw the telephone as a center of interest. It was constantly in use either for outgoing or incoming calls. If Mrs. Barber had realized how many phone operators she wore out, her kindheartedness would certainly have made her spread her phone calls over two days. She was so enthusiastic and absorbed in her plans that she was not aware of her excessive tax upon these girls. The last phone call brought smiles and added energy to Mrs. Barber as she hurried off into the heart of the great smoky city. She spent perhaps an hour behind closed doors in con-

ference with the matron in charge of the large settlement house. At the end of that time she emerged with a piece of paper bearing the names of some fifteen young boys and girls. Glancing down the list she swallowed forcefully, uttered a peculiar sound and shook her head as she said: "Can't exactly say I am very apt at pronouncing these long foreign names."

The Settlement house matron put her hand on Mrs. Barber's shoulder in an affectionate manner. "Don't worry. They understand and are used to it. They will help you and you will soon learn their Americanized versions." The next two days were spent in the city library. From the stacks of books which Mrs. Barber went through in her two days there, but one did she select to take away with her.

For some few days after this Mrs. Barber occupied her time with the white paper with the list of unpronounceable names, the book, and last but not least, fifteen vivacious young persons, grimy and a little crude, but how sweet, earnest, happy and eager they were. The training had to be patiently undertaken. The response was altogether what might have been expected from these kind-hearted, high-spirited youngsters.

Then, lastly, there were the house decorations to be attended to. There were willing hands in the home which helped hang wreaths, trim the tree and put up the little sprigs of holly and mistletoe. Melodies not familiar to the younger generation filled the house. The humming and quiet whistling told of expected joys not now far in the offing.

There was shopping to be done and many preparations for the food which would be necessary. Busy days, but what happy ones. Mrs. Barber was never too busy or too tired to stop and have a friendly chat with anyone of the elderly people, to profit from their suggestions or abide by their wishes, if it was at all possible to do so.

Christmas Day, the day, arrived. When the old folks came down to their breakfast, they found a Christmas tree laden with at least one gift for each. They were as pleased and happy as children with their presents.

At noon the festivities took on proportion. One would never have guessed that the folks ranged anywhere from seventy to ninety-five, as they trooped in to Christmas dinner. The table was heavily laden with all the Christmas delicacies, especially good for people of their age. They also had another little surprise. They had fifteen radiant happy guests who were introduced to them. It was indeed hard to judge which was enjoying the dinner the most, the young or the old. Suffice it to say, the young folks enjoyed it the most.

Before the group left the table Mrs. Barber made a little announcement. "Our guests have come out today not only to help us enjoy our Christmas dinner, but to help us to have a delightful afternoon. They have come prepared to present a short Christmas play and to furnish us a little musical entertainment."

From the chuckles, smiles, laughter and applause, there was no doubt



There Were Willing Hands Which Helped Trim the Tree.

about the approval with which the entertainment was received. The young people were worth of all the praise which they received. The coaching had been successful. The day had been delightful and was a topic of conversation for a long time. Mrs. Barber was even happier over the occasion than the old folks, if such a thing could be possible. She realized that this vision, her scheme, had been practical. The fifty dollars had given pleasure to not only the old people but it gave these young foreign Settlement-house children a chance to share in the joys of Christmas, the joy of giving of their own talents, reaping the consequential rewards of pleasure, praise and remuneration, the joy of finding the true Christmas spirit in giving freely of themselves, as well as having had a sumptuous Christmas dinner which otherwise might have been merely a thing of their dreams.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Burke of Portland, arrived in Athena Wednesday evening and will spend Christmas at the J. C. Burke home.

Christmas Greens

MARGARET BRUCE

HERE is one jaunt I hope never to deprive my youngsters of," said a business man the other day, "and that is the annual trip to the woods after Christmas greens for the house. Every year since we were married, my wife and I have bundled ourselves up in warm togs and gone out a day or two before Christmas and gathered armfuls of spruce and hemlock branches, sprays of ground pine, and occasionally some mistletoe, though this is rare in our part of the country.

"After the children came, this excursion into the woods became as much a part of Christmas as the tree, the stockings, and the dinner. When we were living out in the suburbs, near the open woods, we used to go out and chop down our own Christmas tree and bring it home on a low sledge.

"Then the time came when we had to move into town, because of my having a good deal of night work, and it took too long to get away out into the country late at night. We couldn't bring home our own Christmas tree any more, of course, but we could, and did, take a whole day to go out and get our Christmas greens, and we do it every year. If the weather is open and there isn't too much snow, we take the car and drive out to the woods.

"If there is a great deal of snow and it is impossible to take the car out, we go on the train to a convenient country station, get off and tramp through the woods, and collect our Christmas decorations. If we have too large a load to take into the coach, I find that the baggage car will bring it in to town for a half-dollar or so. The spirit of Christmas comes back with us from the woods, and the twining of our own greens into wreaths and festoons means a hundred times more than if we bought them out of a wooden packing box at the florist's."

The First Christmas

NIGHT had descended upon the hills of Judea. All was hushed and still; the earth and heavens seemed resting in a great, deep calm. No sound came to break the stillness. Even the humble shepherd men who watched their flocks were silent—they, too, felt the deep thrill and mystery of the night. Humble and uneducated as they were, they could not fathom what it all meant, but in their hearts was a sense of awe and wonderment that kept them silent.

Then on the darkness of the night there came out of the heavens a dazzling light and the shepherds were frightened. But an angel of the Lord was standing beside them and in a voice that found its way to their very hearts told them to fear not, rather to rejoice instead, for he was bringing them tidings of great joy, that the long-looked-for Savior had been born that night in Bethlehem of Judea. And when this angel had finished speaking the glory of heaven shone brighter all about them, and looking up they beheld a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and singing the song that has echoed since through all the ages: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of good will."

After the angels had departed and the dazzling light had vanished from the hillside the shepherds whispered among themselves, and they decided to leave their flocks and go to the little town of Bethlehem, as the angel had told them. Over the hills and valleys they went, never pausing until they came to the humble stable where the Savior lay. There they prostrated themselves at His feet, praising God for the thing that had come to pass, and telling Mary, His mother, and Joseph of what they had seen and heard that night. Then they departed from His presence and went their way, telling all whom they met of the Savior's coming.

So was it at the first Christmas!—Katherine Edelman. (©, 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Christmas Buying Good In Athena

More Trees Distributed and Buying is Heavy With Local Dealers.

Dealers say that there were more Christmas trees distributed in Athena homes this season than ever before. By the same token, more Christmas presents than usual were purchased to put on these trees. Christmas trade is reported exceptionally good by Athena merchants, and while the toy trade has been exceptionally heavy, there has been a noticeable demand for practical gifts, also. The rule to please the children with toys and elaborately decorated trees is a common practice at Christmas time, but more and more the practical and substantial gift idea is being carried out.

Clothing, footwear, furnishings, chinaware, artscapes, rugs, jewelry, beds, blankets, and even stoves, washing machines and cream separators have become common articles to be listed as practical Christmas presents.

And dad who is familiarly caricatured holding a package of bills labeled "from the whole family," now frequently turns the table on the family by presenting them with the key to a fine automobile, which on Christmas morning is promptly driven up to the front door by the Ford dealer or the Rolls-Royce demonstrator, as the case and the size of dad's purse might be.

Oh, yes, Christmas buying is changing, as is everything else. And by the way, it is a patent fact that more than ever, home people are finding out that Christmas buying can be done as cheaply and with more satisfaction in their home town with the home merchants.

Longview Heroine After Long Fight Hears the Summons

Longview.—Lucille Chamberlain, 17-year-old girl heroine and aquatic star, died late today after a fight of four months for her life. Miss Chamberlain, who was credited with saving the lives of two others by her daring and prowess in the water, was injured August 1 when she dived 20 feet into the Columbia river and struck a submerged log.

"Goodbye, everybody, I hear mama calling," the girl said today when she realized that death was near. Her mother died two years ago.

For weeks, although she was totally paralyzed, the girl had refused to give up hope for life. Last night she had a relapse. She rallied, however, and when a physician arrived, she smiled at him and said: "Doc, I was awfully scared, but I guess I'll pull through all right."

The friends of the dying girl nevertheless realized she had not long to live and last night gave her her Christmas presents. At her bedside today were her father, Walter W. Chamberlain, Longview, railway employe, and her closest friends, Rae Johnson, a Longview boy, and Florence Tennant, freshman at the University of Washington.

Miss Chamberlain was born at Pacific City, Wash. After her mother's death two years ago, Lucille assumed the duties of housekeeper for her father and a young sister and brother. The day before she was injured, August 1, she swam the Columbia river here in record time, and saved Lila McIvor, nine, from drowning.

Drumheller denied that he had proposed marriage to Mrs. Kelly, and said his interest in her was friendly. He had been a friend of her dead husband, Bert Kelly, rodeo rider, he said through his counsel, and promised only to "take care of her."

House Coalition Passes Tax Bill

Reduction \$65,000,000 Above Maximum Set By Secretary Mellon.

Washington, D. C.—The tax bill, passed by the house, reached the senate with indications that it would not even be considered by the senate finance committee until after Christmas.

Out of line with the recommendations of the treasury, and calling for a \$290,000,000 decrease in revenue payments—more than the treasury, in President Coolidge's opinion, can stand—it will be the subject of brief hearings, then the senate will take it up, with predictions general that concerted efforts will be made to revise its provisions.

As approved by the house, the measure would result in an annual tax reduction of \$57,000,000 more than the amount recommended by its ways and means committee—at least that is the estimate. The house total was \$65,000,000 above the "safe" maximum, set by Secretary Mellon and approved by the president, but more than \$100,000,000 below the figure recommended by the chamber of commerce of the United States.

Chairman Smoot of the senate finance committee has expressed the belief that the senate may scale the bill down to somewhere near the treasury total. On the other hand, Senator Simmons of North Carolina, the senior democrat on the committee, sees no reason why the reduction shouldn't be boosted to \$400,000,000, and is laying plans to that end.

With a democratic-republican coalition holding a whip hand, the house passed the tax bill with three major amendments, which were vigorously opposed by republican party leaders. On a final showdown, however, only 21 republicans were willing to go on record against the measure after exhausting every parliamentary means to eliminate the three contested amendments, among them one for repeal of the sales tax on automobiles. The vote on passage was 366 to 21.

LINDY WILL VISIT CENTRAL AMERICA

Mexico City.—Mexico safely captured, Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh made plans to extend the Lindbergh air line to Central America. He announced his acceptance of invitations to visit Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador and Panama.

After leaving Mexico City he will fly to the Central American countries and then visit Cuba before pointing the nose of the Spirit of St. Louis toward its home port, St. Louis. Mexico gave Lindbergh a reception that impressed him more than any other he had received at home or abroad.

"Vivas," flags and hunting in the capital of the southern republic vied with New York's ticker tape and the bouquets and medals of Washington, Paris and London in acclaiming Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh as the darling of the people wherever he goes.

HERRICK CONTRACT VOIDED

Oregon Timber Sale Deal Declared Off by Chief Forester Greeley. Washington, D. C.—Chief Forester Greeley canceled the contract of Fred Herrick of St. Maries, Idaho, for the sale of \$80,000,000 feet of timber on the Malheur national forest in Oregon. Representatives of Herrick said they would appeal to the secretary of agriculture. The sale to Herrick occurred several years ago. Failure of the company formed by Herrick to carry out the terms of the contract aroused residents of Baker, Or., to petition the secretary of agriculture to cancel the contract. Representatives of Mr. Herrick failed to satisfy Chief Forester Greeley that prospective associates or purchasers were prepared to take over and push the lumber project to completion as demanded by the government.

Pan-American Meet in Havana. Havana, Cuba.—Preparations for the sixth Pan-American conference, to be held here beginning January 15, are being rushed in an effort to have everything in readiness by that date.