

# GRADUATE 'DICK' LANDS IN JAIL

### Got Star and Diploma, but No Definition of What Forms a Felony

White Plains, N. Y.—James Homer Wood still has his nickel-plated badge, but he has lost a good deal of his assurance as a detective since Judge Close suspended sentence on him in Westchester county court, where the young man had pleaded guilty of unlawful entry.

"You ought," Judge Close advised him, "to tell your professor of detectiveology—or whatever the science is called—that he might include in the course a few definitions of what constitutes a felony."

James Homer Wood is twenty-one years old. He lives in Peekskill and works as a printer in Ossining. He also sings baritone in a church choir in Peekskill, but James Homer Wood demands more of life than to place either at a linotype machine or in a church choir. He craves mystery.

He sees no satisfactory career in either vocation. He craves mystery, excitement, peril, the joy of living which comes to the man hunter who mingles in his being the cold faculty of reason, the ardent thrill of the chase, and the supreme courage of the capture. In other words, James Homer Wood felt in his soul that he had the making of a remarkable detective.

About six months ago he enrolled for a correspondence course in detecting. Every week a questionnaire was mailed to him, which he answered with painstaking thoroughness which won commendation from the institution of learning in which he was a student. He also carefully omitted to shave his upper lip and attended all the motion picture shows which gave him an opportunity of studying the stage detective in action.

Most encouraging reports came from his instructor, who said that James Homer Wood was displaying an astounding aptitude for the profession and would make a name for himself and for the school. This pleased the young man almost as much as did the indubitable mustache which was budding beneath his nose.

Ambition Surges Up. He devoted a lot of time to the mustache, and by the time he got his diploma and badge last month there were few bona fide detectives who could boast a more vigorous or more somber growth.

The head of the detective school himself signed the diploma sent to James Homer Wood and wrote him a personal letter in which he pointed out that while James Homer Wood was now thoroughly grounded technically as a detective, it would be advisable to undertake field work in an experimental way before attempting anything really dangerous.

A badge came with the diploma, and in spite of the veiled restraint which the head of the college evidently strove to impose upon his promising pupil, James Homer Wood felt capable of tackling any baffling crime that came along.

Baffling crimes were somewhat scarce in Peekskill just at that time, however, and after a few minor investigations which came to untimely ends, the graduate detective decided he had better take the advice of the college president until something turned up. It had become exasperating to make inquiries in a casual way about deaths which invariably proved to be the result of nephritis, pneumonia, or something equally uninteresting, and James Homer Wood gave himself seriously to thought on the subject of harmless field work.

He recalled that there was a slot machine in a filling station not far from his home. As a detective, he knew that slot machines were illegal, and as a choir singer, he knew that they were immoral. The slot machine, he decided, had as few influential friends as the man-eating shark and was the logical subject

# TOWN AND VICINITY

Drive to Salem—Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Eggmann motored to Salem on a business trip Tuesday afternoon.

Visitors Monday—Mr. and Mrs. Sam Miller of Junction City spent Monday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Larson.

Recovering at Hospital—Mrs. J. P. Moscop who recently underwent a major operation is reported to be recovering nicely.

Visits at Oakridge—Mrs. M. B. Huntly spent Saturday in Oakridge in the interests of her subscription campaign.

Visitor from Creswell—William Hollister will be in Springfield for a short time on business. His home is in Creswell.

Attends Funeral—John Nelson traveled to Silverton Tuesday to attend the funeral of Officer James Iverson.

Birthday Party Given—A birthday party for Mrs. Thomas Patrick was given Monday at the home of Mrs. R. P. Mortensen.

Travels to Lowell—M. A. Pohl, electrician returned from Lowell Tuesday where he did some wiring work.

Visits from Seattle—Mr. and Mrs. John Allen of Seattle spent a few days at the home of O. B. Hardy near Springfield recently.

Moving into Springfield—E. G. Privat, local jeweler, is moving with his wife and two boys to Springfield at the end of this week. Their home will be at 8th and C streets.

Drives from Portland—G. Griffith of the Springfield Creamery made a business trip to Portland Friday of last week.

Assists at Eggmann's—Mrs. Alice Lora started working at Eggmann's Monday morning.

Safety Meeting Held—The monthly safety meeting of employees of the Mountain States Power company for Southern Oregon was held at the local power plant Monday evening.

for experimental work of a harmless nature such as had been suggested in the letter he had received.

Pins on Badge, Takes Field. This particular slot machine was out of kilter and had not been used for months, which seemed to make it all the better subject for experimentation. Moreover, so far as a detective with a diploma could discover, it was the only thing in all Peekskill which smacked of illegality.

James Homer Wood pinned his nickel-plated badge beneath the lapel of his coat and went after that slot machine at an hour at which all Peekskill should have been asleep. He had no difficulty in breaking into the filling station and decided that he would write a thesis on that subject in case the correspondence school gave post-graduate degrees, but the disposal of the slot machine was a different matter.

It was much bulkier than the graduate detective had thought it would be, but eventually he got it through the window. As he had brought no conveyance with him, he had to carry the slot machine on his back down the road to a dump.

LOST—Black velvet jacket at Springfield ball diamond. Return to this office.

Teacher Visits—Virgil McPherson and Raymond Kozar spent the week-end here at the home of Mrs. Stella McPherson, mother of Virgil. Mrs. McPherson accompanied the young men to Dallas where she will spend a few days. Her son is principal of the Dallas junior high school.

Drives to Seattle—Mrs. Dallas Murphy drove to Seattle Saturday morning taking with her Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Murphy of Eugene and their daughter, Mrs. Ernest Anderson and her daughter, Patsy. They attended a Bible program at the University church while in Seattle. Miss Era Dell Murphy, another daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Murphy had charge of the program.

Visits from Junction City—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Toftdal of Junction City spent the week-end here as guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Larson. Mr. Toftdal is a brother of Mrs. Larson.

Rhododendrons Here—A large vase of rhododendron blooms were on exhibition at the reception room of Drs. Dow and Rebhan.

Returns from Portland—Mrs. Guy Gabriel returned Saturday from Portland where she had spent a week visiting with her mother.

Recovering from Operation—Mrs. J. D. Pyle, who underwent an operation in Portland Saturday morning, is reported as doing nicely now.

Former Residents Here—Allen Kafoury was a business visitor in Springfield Tuesday. Mr. Kafoury formerly operated a furnishings store in Springfield.

Motor to Blue River—Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Kenyon and Mr. and Mrs. F. A. DePue motored to Blue River Sunday. The road along Blue River is in fine shape according to Mr. Kenyon.

Guests at Hotel—F. E. Roberts, Frank Safley, K. Sims, F. W. Conrad, J. Miller, F. Shepard, and M. L. Smith all of Albany were registered at the Springfield hotel during the past week.

sulted in a general paring down of help of all kinds, although there were fewer dismissals and less cuts in pay than in former depressions, most lines of business carrying out their promises, made two years ago to President Hoover, to stabilize conditions as much as they could. Those left on the pay-roll developed greater efficiency, and proved that many offices and factories had been over-staffed under old conditions. It is certain, say government officials, that all of this excess help will never be re-employed at their jobs, just to diminish the ranks of the unemployed.

To combat this idleness in the ranks of would-be workers, which is expected to become serious again next winter, everybody in official Washington, from the President to the lowest executive is concentrating on measures of relief they expect will be needed when snow flies again. Charitable agencies will have more funds to work with than they had in the past two winters, while the government's program of public improvements, already well in hand, will furnish thousands with work.

Economists charge that unemployment of capital creates an even more serious condition than the lack of jobs for the citizens. The government is wasting little time on relief measures for the capitalists as it feels they ought to be able to care for themselves. This they are doing by seeking new avenues of investment.

In this struggle to invest surplus funds is seen the greatest hope for the future. The Patent Office is the one department here closest to the future. In that building crowd the new devices that can be expected to become generally accepted in the not distant future.

Some fifty years ago the new telephone and electric light industries poured in their thousands of patents, foreshadowing the growth of those commercial giants. Later the automotive line began to flood patent officials with their caveats and designs. The radio followed. All these lines are now employing millions of people who would otherwise be out of work.

Similarly the patent officials predict, the rise of several other new colossal industrial lines that will absorb the efforts of the unemployed left stranded by the present depression. Perhaps the most promising of these fields centers in the artificial cooling and ventilating of homes. Although several big concerns are operating in that field and many public and private buildings are now kept cool in summer by the same plant that heats the rooms in winter, yet few private dwellings, except those of the wealthiest, have been outfitted with the new machinery. The White House and Houses of Congress and many other public buildings here are cooled in hot weather.

Capital is already looking over this field, which is no longer an experimental one, its basic principles having been fully tested and developed by the artificial refrigerators now in common use. Along with the exploitation of this field by the sellers of the new apparatus will come additional work for builders in all lines who will have to supply new heat-resisting floors, ceilings and walls.

The automotive, radio and similar lines have about reached the point where no labor will be needed, no matter how the demand grows. New machinery will replace labor in those fields about as fast

as production increases, it is figured, and the manufacture of the new ventilating appliance is expected to take up this slack.

Officials figure that next to the ventilating line comes the anticipated exploitation of "backyard flying." This is the term that has been coined for the new autogiro, which has passed the stage of experiment and is nearly ready for commercial development. Airplanes will never become a great employer of labor, like the radio and electrical fields, because of the conditions under which they are built and operated. Already there is an oversupply of licensed pilots, of whom there are 5,000 more than planes to be flown.

The autogiro is a different project. Even now their use in small suburban yards is not only feasible but actually occurs. The machines, which rise vertically from any piece of ground large enough for them to rest upon, are safe and speedy. Their general adoption will result in the employment of thousands out of work right now.

A third field that awaits only the inventive genius of some man to make it commercially possible to television. At present the best engineers have been able to accomplish is to produce an image not larger than five inches square. This limits its general field. With the discovery of a way to present pictures suitable for movie screens an enormous new field will be created, almost overnight. While engineers are unable to cure the defect of its smallness at present yet they do not question their ability to do so eventually.

## 'The Front Page' Is Costly Story

Lewis Milestone, the young director who has turned out more prize-winning motion pictures than any other movie-maker in the industry, handled the megaphone on "The Front Page," the attraction at the Colonial theatre opening Sunday for four days.

"The Front Page" is the rapid-tempo comedy-drama of newspaper life and reporters in action, written originally for the stage by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur, and now presented in film form by Howard Hughes, producer-director of the \$4,000,000 air spectacle, "Hell's Angels."

This is Director Milestone's third Howard Hughes production. "Two Arabian Knights," the picture which launched Producer Hughes into the movie business, the "The Racket," Hugh's second production, were Milestone-directed film plays. Both won awards from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. "All Quiet on the Western Front," the 1930 prize picture, by unanimous vote of the film academy and by vote of critics throughout the country, was also a Lewis Milestone production.

Already "The Front Page" is being hailed by New York reviewers as the prize production of 1931—the laurels going once again to Director Milestone.

In "The Front Page," Milestone has poured his finest directorial efforts, and he has had the whole

hearted support of the industry's most progressive producer—Howard Hughes.

"The Front Page" is played by one of the most brilliant casts ever assembled for a picture. Adolphe Menjou, departing for the first time from his standardized characterizations of the past, plays the role of the dapper but diabolical managing editor. Pat O'Brien, for years a popular stage actor on Broadway, has the part of Hildy Johnson, the go-getting reporter. Mary Brian is the feminine lead, and Edward Everett Horton the comedy sensation of the year as the "rhyming reporter."

Others in the cast include Slim Summerville, Mae Clarke, Walter Catlett, Matt Moore, Fred Howard, Frank McHugh, Phil Tead, Eugene Strong, George E. Stone, Clarence H. Wilson, Spencer Charters, Maurice Black and Effie Ellsler.

## Upper Willamette

The Pleasant Hill public school and the Enterprise public school entertained the parents at the Pleasant Hill school grounds Friday, May 1, celebrating National Health day. The morning was given over to a program both schools taking part. At noon a basket dinner was served cafeteria style in the primary room. After dinner races and games were played on the school grounds. Teachers for Pleasant Hill are W. P. Sheridan and Mrs. J. A. Phelps for Enterprise, Mrs. George Brown.

The women of the Pleasant Hill community club met at the home of Mrs. George Brown Thursday afternoon April 30. The ladies had brought some wonderful pieces of handwork in the form of quilts, rugs, spreads and pillows that were put on display, celebrating Bertha Homes week. There were several quilts over a hundred years old that showed wonderful patience and hours of labor by great grandmothers who had made them. Cake, sandwiches and tea were served by the Misses Helen Carter and Emma Olson. The next meeting will be held at the Woodman grounds, on Thursday May 14. The ladies of the Tri-Community club of Cloverdale, Bear Creek and Enterprise have been asked to be the guests of the Pleasant Hill ladies for that day.

Friday morning the students of the Pleasant Hill high school went down to the Woodman picnic grounds and cleaned them up preparatory to giving the annual Pleasant Hill picnic in June. In the afternoon the young folks went to Elmira where they attended the Elmira May Day festival and play-tennis. The girls team was defeated by the Elmira girls by a score of 15 to 5. The Pleasant Hill boys defeated the Elmira boys 7 to 4.

The Intermediate Endeavor society have invited the mothers to meet with them Sunday evening May 10, honoring Mothers day. There will be special numbers on the regular program and refreshments will be served.

Mrs. A. Copeland leader of the high school 4-H clubs entertained the clubs at her home at Pleasant Hill Friday night, May 1.

The Upper Willamette Girl

Scout troop met at the Pleasant Hill baseball diamond Tuesday night and re-organized their troop "The Eagles." Mrs. Kilpatrick, Mrs. Drury and Mrs. Ralph Laird were present, about 24 girls turned out. The troop has not met during the winter months. Four patrols were organized with the following leaders: Loree Laird, Evelyn Phelps, Lucile Jordan and Bonnie Jean Tinker. Plans were made to complete the swimming tests started last summer. After the business meeting a bonfire with Weiner roast was greatly enjoyed, games played and songs rendered.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Kilpatrick of Pleasant Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Powers of Lowell spent the week-end at Florence enjoying fishing, clam digging and sea bathing.

Miss Iris Wallace of Edenvale spent the week-end with Miss Verna Wiley at the Kilpatrick home.

Several residents of Pleasant Hill were fishing up Fall creek recently. They report that a great many trees in that district were uprooted by the recent wind. In one instance the root and ground uprooted measured 40 feet across and extended 25 feet into the air.

The new Upper Willamette road is proving to be very popular and many fishermen and pleasure seekers dot the hill sides every day and especially Sunday. There are many beautiful places to picnic by the side of the water but there

are few approaches to these spots and cars have to be parked on the side of the highway.

The Pleasant Hill junior play, "Am I Intruding," will be given at the gymnasium this week Friday and Saturday.

The editorial staff of the Hepta are very busy preparing material for the annual.

In a practice game of baseball held at the Pleasant Hill grounds the Pleasant Hill boys defeated the Springfield high school team by a score of 9 to 6. The Pleasant Hill girls won by a score of 7 to 5.

The Pleasant Hill Athletic club will play its first scheduled game of the Benton-Lane series next Sunday at Pleasant Hill when they will meet Wendling.

The farmers are almost praying for rain. Practically all farm work has been halted by the dry weather. Fields and orchards are too hard to plow, truck gardens are practically standing still and apples are becoming very numerous on peas and small vegetables. Berries are beginning to blossom.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hult and family have moved into the house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dorrence Warner. Mr. and Mrs. Warner are living in the Elliott home by the river at Jasper.

Miss Florence Elliott and Miss Ruth Rydell teachers of the Lowell high school walked to Oakridge Sunday, April 26 and returned by train. They made the hike a distance of 26 miles in 8 hours.

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## THE FRONT PAGE

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