

ATTORNEY DEAD; GIRL A SUICIDE IN CRIME PUZZLE

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Sept. 17.—(AP)—Police today attempted to piece together loose ends of an attempted holdup in which two men were fatally shot last Friday night.

W. O. Bohannon, 47, prominent Evansville attorney, was found dying from two bullet wounds in front of his home Friday night, and Frank Mills, 19, of Detroit, was found dead in a field near here Saturday morning.

Frank Paisley, 24, of Essex, Mo., son of Mills, who was arrested Saturday as he viewed Mills' body in a local morgue, said that Bohannon shot Mills when the two youths came upon the attorney and a woman companion in a parked automobile in the country. Paisley shot Bohannon, he confessed, "because he got my buddy."

Another possible angle of this mystery developed last night when Miss Norma Fugger, 21, Bohannon's Auburn-haired stenographer, committed suicide by drinking poison in her home.

Her mother told police that Norma did not go out in the company of her employer.

Paisley's story to police related how Bohannon made a break for a gun, while Mills, a former pugilist, was attempting to tie him up. The double shooting followed. Then, fatally wounded, Bohannon drove his automobile through a corn field, across the fields to a road and five miles back to Evansville. Found by his wife, Bohannon gasped that he had been shot by holdupmen, and never again regained consciousness. He died Saturday.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 15.—(AP)—Discovery of a boy's hand, boy's clothing and a "boy scout" hat buried in quicklime on the North coast farm in Riverside county, was made today by a sheriff's party digging on the chicken ranch in search of the graves of four boys believed to have been tortured and slain.

When officers first went to the ranch where Gordon Cyrus Northcott, 29, and his mother, Mrs. Louise Northcott, are accused of torturing and killing four boys, it was reported that a human head was found in a grave near a chicken shed.

PRESIDENT SETS ASIDE FIRE WEEK

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—(AP)—A crusade against the dangers of fire and for the popular adoption of fire precautions has been proclaimed by President Coolidge today in setting aside the week beginning on Sunday, October 7, as "fire prevention week."

Pointing out in his proclamation that most fires are easily preventable, the chief executive added that "However, year by year fire has resulted in the destruction of thousands of lives and much material wealth. In 1927 property loss alone in the United States due to fire is estimated to have totaled more than \$475,000,000, while loss of life from the same cause was likewise heavy."

Mr. Coolidge praised organized efforts already under way to propagate fire prevention practices, and urged that these be continued and enlarged.

LIGHTNING CAUSES LOSSES

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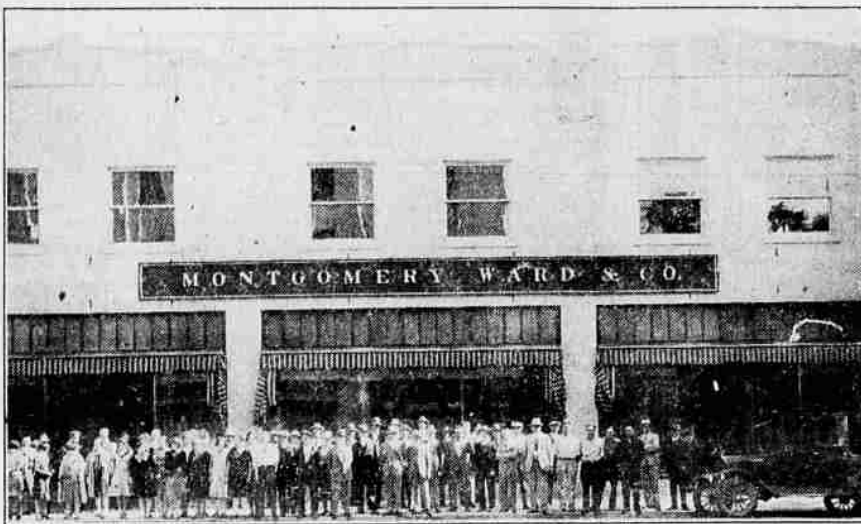
However, another serious condition followed at once when lightning struck a pole near Buckshot hill, throwing the Prospect and Copeco power plants out of parallel. The 18-minute delay was caused by lack of telephone communication between the various generating stations, all telephone lines on the power company's private lines having been blown out. These were replaced as quickly as possible and when proper clearance was secured service was restored at once. A great deal of trouble was also experienced on the company's local distribution circuits, many transformers and residence fuses being blown in various parts of the city.

A severe case of trouble was found on East Jackson, near Bartlett, where trees were blown into the primary lines, burning the wires through in four or five places.

Here the Copeco line crew found it necessary to construct a temporary line around the scene of trouble in order to restore service. Other minor repairs kept the Copeco workers on the job practically all night and several crews were still busy cleaning up today. Favorable comments were heard on the streets this morning concerning the efficient and prompt manner in which local electric service was maintained, even in the face of such an extreme electrical storm.

Mail Tribune ads are read by 20,000 people every day.

Guests at Montgomery Ward Company Pre-Opening



Business men of the city and employees, in front of Medford's new store on South Central avenue last Friday, September 14, on pre-opening day. The formal opening of this store occurred Saturday and was largely attended by Medford citizens as well as people from all over Southern Oregon and Northern California.

ROMA ALL READY FOR OCEAN DASH SOME TIME TODAY

OLD ORCHARD, Me., Sept. 17.—(AP)—The crew of the Bellanca monoplane Roma, hoped to be winging their way to Rome some time before tonight.

Word late yesterday from Pietro Bonelli, radio operator, and navigator of the expedition, that auspicious weather was at hand and that he was speeding here from New York City, where he had been in consultation with government weather experts, spurred his three companions to immediate activity.

The big plane, in which the four will endeavor to negotiate the 4500-mile trip, was taken from Scarborough field near Portland for a test flight during which it made a landing here. At the conclusion of the flight the machine was pronounced in readiness. Fourteen hundred gallons of fuel must be poured into the tanks, but that was practically all that remained to be done. The expedition is headed by Col-

are Sabelli, a former flight lieutenant in the Italian air forces during the war, but now an American citizen. Roger Q. Williams of Richmond, Va., is the chief pilot, while Dr. L. M. Placitelli of New York, one of the financial backers of the expedition, will observe the effect in a physical way of the strain of the flight on the other three.

"APE-MAN" SLEW FIVE

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expressed the opinion that they were.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Sept. 17.—(AP)—Gordon Stewart Northcott, 21, wanted by Los Angeles police for questioning in regard to a "murder farm" near Ontario, Cal., is in Vancouver or vicinity, J. A. Walker, private detective retained by the youth before his disappearance declared he believed today.

Walker said he had become suspicious of the actions of Northcott and a woman supposed to be his mother and had sought to pick up their trails without results. "I am sure that they are still in the city or vicinity, for I overheard a remark between them to the effect that they would return to a place they had once stopped at on Kingsway," Walker said.

Northcott told Walker wild stories of a controversy over valuable securities and lands, an el-

ly wife with an immense fortune and a palatial yacht. The youth arrived in Vancouver before Sanford Clark, 15, now held in Los Angeles, told police that Northcott had killed four boys on his father's chicken farm in Riverside. Walker's suspicions were not aroused at first when Northcott sought the aid of the detective agency, but his actions later led the detective to think something was wrong.

SASKATOON, Sask., Sept. 17.—(AP)—Mrs. Louise Northcott, wanted in connection with "murder farm" revelations at Riverside, Cal., has left Saskatoon accompanied by Mrs. Whinnie Clark, mother of San-

ford, by whom the revelations were made. Mrs. Northcott arrived in Saskatoon Tuesday and left Thursday it is understood for Vancouver. In the meantime, Gordon Stuart Northcott, her son, also wanted by police, is believed to be at the British Columbia city.

STORM SWEEPS PALM BEACH

(Continued from Page One.)

Postal Telegraph Cable companies reported. Wires to Tampa on the west coast were reported operating satisfactorily.

TAMPA, Fla., Sept. 17.—(AP)—A wireless dispatch from West Palm Beach, picked up by station 4-BN here, says two persons were killed

and 50 injured as a result of the West Indian storm that isolated that vicinity last night. The message was received from station 4-AFC and signed "Crimin."

It added that an unconfirmed report from Boynton, south of there, said 10 persons were buried in a school building which collapsed. Another report from Deerfield said several negroes were dead.

Many buildings in the business district of West Palm Beach were damaged, the message added.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The weather bureau's condition report of the tropical storm today said this:

"The tropical storm is central this morning over the Florida peninsula east of Tampa, where the barometer at 8 a. m. was 29.60 inches. Thisville reported a barometer reading of 29.21 inches and wind of hurricane force from the east."

"This severe storm continues to move northwestward at the rate of about 300 miles per day. Hurricane warnings remain displayed from Punta Gorda to Apalachicola, Fla., and south of Jacksonville to Jupiter and storm warnings elsewhere on the Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi coast."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Reports of the death of two persons at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and unconfirmed reports of other loss of life were received today by the navy department from the Key West naval radio station.

The dispatch said that the radio station could hear Jupiter calling but that Jupiter could not hear Key West. Capt. R. W. McNeely, naval commandant, dispatched a naval radio officer toward Jupiter from Miami to report on conditions. The communication said that no wires or railroads were operating north of Miami.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 17.—(AP)—Clifford Grange, local radio operator, said he had received the following message this morning from West Palm Beach:

"No known dead, but undetermined number of persons injured in hurricane which struck Palm Beach and West Palm Beach at 6 o'clock Sunday night. Many homes were wrecked."

Grange said the message was signed "D. H. Conkling."

The publisher of the Palm Beach Post is named D. H. Conkling. The message continued:

"The buildings which are standing are filled with refugees. Center of the hurricane is believed to have entered Florida at Del Rio, 20 miles south. Wind changed northeast to east and to south at daylight, and dropped to 27 miles an hour."

"The Times (evening newspaper) building was partially wrecked. The Post (morning newspaper) is practically intact."

"No estimates of damage possible."

"Hospital is partially destroyed. Red Cross has temporary hospital."

"Aid not officially asked for in this message, but believe needed."

The message was addressed to the Associated Press and was the first direct word from the isolated storm area.

Grange said he caught the message as it was being transmitted by amateur station 4-FC at Palm Beach to an amateur radio operator at Tavares, Fla.

Grange was unable to get in touch with the Palm Beach station because of lack of power for his own set.

Grange, who has won many honors as an amateur, has a first-class commercial radio license.

He is credited with having received the first direct word of the Miami hurricane disaster in 1926.

TAMPA, Fla., Sept. 17.—(AP)—Wind velocity of 50 to 60 miles an hour by 9 a. m. was forecast today by W. J. Bennett, government meteorologist here. The center of the hurricane which moved inland from the Atlantic yesterday, he believed, was somewhat north of here.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—(AP)—President Coolidge's first request when he reached his office today was of the latest news from the hurricane-swept sections of Florida and in the West Indies.

He called on John Barton Payne, chairman of the Red Cross; Major General Summerall, chief of the army staff, and Assistant Secretary Robbins of the war department for a detailed report on what has been done thus far to aid in relief and rehabilitation work.

The Red Cross announced today that the U. S. S. Bridge would sail from New York today for Porto

Rico with supplies for those stricken in last week's hurricane.

Secretary Wilbur ordered the bridge to load with supplies at the Brooklyn navy yard and leave as soon as possible.

Lieutenant Commander Robt. T. Young of the destroyer Glimmer, which sailed from Charleston, S. C., with Red Cross officials and supplies for Porto Rico, reported that his vessel had avoided the storm and is expected to arrive at San Juan tomorrow morning. The Glimmer took a course east of the path of the hurricane, which has delayed its arrival.

A communication from the director of naval communications at San Juan, filed at midnight September 15, advised the navy department that there were no casualties to navy, army or marine corps personnel or families in San Juan, Cary or St. Thomas.

A dispatch from the naval station at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, from Captain Waldo Evans, governor, said that he had proceeded to St. Croix on the tug Grebe and reported conditions there very bad. Six persons were dead and 20 injured, the dispatch said. The probable damage was great and will reach at least \$100,000.

Among the dispatches from Captain Evans was one that said much damage was done in the sea walls and water fronts in the islands and that some houses were damaged in St. Thomas, but there was no loss of life or serious injuries. No communication has been established with St. Croix or St. John.

This dispatch said that it was feared that St. Croix suffered the most.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The death list of the tropical hurricane in Porto Rico was increased today with the receipt of reports that at least 29 persons were killed in the town of Comerio.

Frederick Krez, manager of the hydro-electric plant at that place, reported that the bodies of 22 persons were discovered near the plant by a searching party which was seeking the bodies of seven members of one family known to have been washed away in the vicinity. No alarm had previously been felt for the safety of the 22 found. Krug expressed belief that more dead would be found in the neighborhood of Comerio.

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