

CONVICTS DIE IN PRISON FIRE EARLY TODAY

Seventeen Believed to Have Perished When Dormitory Burns—Three Listed As Escaping Custody—275 Men in Terrible Confusion

JUNCTION CITY, Ohio, Oct. 8. (AP)—Seventeen convicts employed in the state-owned brick plant here are believed to have perished when fire swept the dormitory in which 275 prisoners were sleeping early today.

Check of the prisoners revealed that 20 were missing, and of these 17 were believed to have perished in the flames that destroyed the one-story frame structure within a few minutes after the fire was discovered. Three of the 20 missing are believed by officers in charge to have escaped from custody.

The fire was discovered by prisoners, Peter O'Day of Dayton and Edward Tillotson of Toledo, according to guards. O'Day and Tillotson had been listening in on the radio and had shut it off about midnight. Shortly afterward, O'Day said, he smelled smoke coming from the south end of the building where the commissary was located. He opened the commissary door and found the room filled with smoke. A moment later there was a burst of flames.

O'Day and Tillotson cried "Fire!" and the alarm was taken up and echoed through the dormitory where the 275 prisoners lay sleeping.

Terrible Confusion. The confusion that followed was terrible, prisoners said. The great room with its double tier of steel bunks was in semi-darkness. Awakened by the cries, the bewildered prisoners ran about helplessly, struggling futilely with each other between the rows of bunks, seeking to reach doors and windows that were barred.

At this juncture, William O'Malley, a prisoner from Cleveland, began his efforts to save the other men that made him probably the hero of the occasion. O'Malley and Tony Vassilo, also of Cleveland, are employed in the bakery at the north end of the building. When they heard the alarm they rushed to the huge bolted door that separated kitchen, bakery and dining room from the dormitory and attempted to open it. With the aid of Ex White, negro, on the dormitory side of the structure, they succeeded in breaking down the door opening an other avenue of escape. O'Malley estimated that 160 prisoners made their way to safety through that route.

Later, O'Malley and White ran around to a side window of the dormitory where prisoners still were vainly struggling to escape and, using pieces of pipe as sledges, attempted to break open the window, but were unable to do so.

Shortly after the fire was discovered, Captain D. H. Howell, commanding the guard at the brick plant, was awakened by the shouts. He came out immediately, and ordered the guards to open all doors. There were five exits from the dormitory.

The prisoners who had escaped from the flame-swept dormitory were huddled in the office and in the garage. Chester Welch of Cuyahoga county, serving time on a forgery charge, assumed charge of the situation until prison officials arrived, and finding wires from the plant were down, went to Junction City, two miles away, to telephone T. A. Young, superintendent, at his home in Columbus. He also called physicians.

It was said that three or four were so severely burned they probably would die.

Gruesome Task. With the coming of daylight rescue workers found a gruesome task facing them.

The dormitory, a temporary structure, consisted of a corrugated iron covering on a wooden frame, erected on a brick foundation six to ten feet high with a wooden floor.

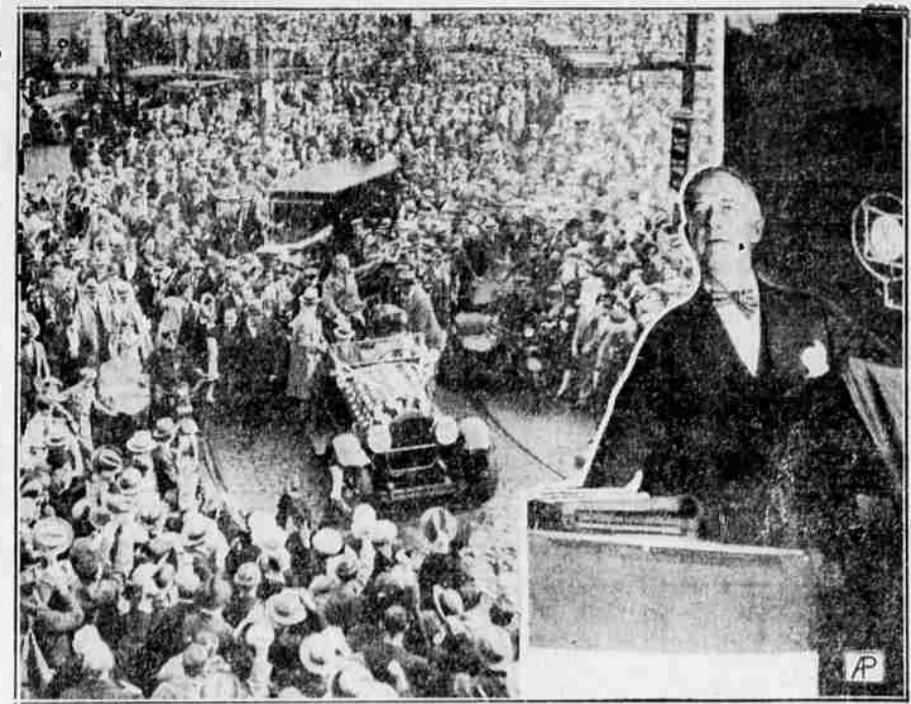
Wooden frame and sheet iron covering had fallen into the shallow basement made by the foundation, and with them had fallen the prisoners' beds.

Searchers from the top of the foundation wall looked down into a tangle of steel cots, scraps of sheet iron, charred timbers and wire, and could see scraps of clothing and dark masses of charred bodies here and there.

It was considered likely that many of the prisoners reported missing may be among those whose bodies lie in the ashes of the flimsy dormitory building.

The eight most seriously burned were taken to the penitentiary hospital at Columbus early today. The remainder of the badly hurt left here at 7 o'clock for Columbus by trucks sent from there.

GOVERNOR SMITH AT NEW YORK DEMOCRATIC MEET



Gov. Alfred E. Smith attending the New York state democratic convention at Rochester after completing his tour of western states. He is shown at right addressing the delegates. At left he is being greeted by enthusiastic crowds as he arrived in Rochester.

MORE RICH COPS FACE GRAND JURY IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 8. (AP)—Two more police captains, "with bank accounts as big or bigger" than any hitherto revealed by a special grand jury investigation of bootleggers and police corruption, are to be summoned before the inquisitors, District Attorney Monaghan announced today as the inquiry entered its eighth week. Monaghan said his detectives had discovered that one of these district commanders had bank deposits aggregating \$150,000 and the other \$125,000.

The prosecutor has retained an accountant to check up on police captains' bank accounts, realty holdings and other investments.

Mayor Mackey, in a statement, declared that police bribery and other "evils" revealed by the investigation, were the "development of many years" and had "started with the attempts to enforce the prohibition law after the passage of the 18th amendment."

NORRIS DRAMA TO BE GIVEN KMED TOMORROW NIGHT

The local radio public will be interested to hear of the premier presentation of Miss Helen Norris' latest radio drama, "A Baker's Dozen," which will be featured during Copco hour on station KMED tomorrow night. This is a clever story of life on the farm and is said to be one of Miss Norris' best literary efforts. Several familiar members of the Copco players will be numbered among the cast of characters, including Miss Mary Greiner and Mrs. Jo Murray Rostel. Both of these talented young ladies have just returned from trips east, and they will no doubt receive a warm welcome from their many friends of "RadioLand." The play which will be presented through the courtesy of the California Oregon Power company, will be directed by Earl Davis, popular radio artist, who will also take a leading part in the drama.

JUDGE RECEIVES FINE SOUVENIR GIFT KNIFE

A pocket knife of exceptional beauty was sent Judge C. M. Thomas as a souvenir of Sweden by his brother-in-law, C. J. Paender, who is traveling through that country at the present time. The handle of the knife, about four inches long, is of sterling silver, inlaid with the Swedish royal crest in colors on one side, and with a decorative scene from Swedish folk lore on the other.

The Noted Dead

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Oct. 8. (AP)—Col. Charles Heman Graves, Civil war veteran and minister to Sweden and Norway in 1905, and to Sweden from 1906 to 1914, died here. He took a prominent part in Minnesota politics, having served in the state senate and as speaker of the house of representatives.

GRAF ZEPPELIN SAILING DATE IS NEXT WEDNESDAY

FRIEDRICHSHAFEN, Germany, Oct. 8. (AP)—In anticipation of the start of Germany's huge new dirigible Graf Zeppelin for the United States, scheduled for Wednesday, Friedrichshafen has virtually become one vast tourist hotel. Thousands of sightseers, especially Americans, Austrians, Germans and Swiss today fill the hotels to capacity. Not only here but also in nearby cities. The lobbies presented a veritable babel of languages.

After the airship's return to its hangar from a brief test flight the baggage of the passengers will be stowed aboard and also the mail as the ship must be carefully balanced for its long voyage. The test flight will be made to test the direction-finding apparatus and as a speed trial.

One of the problems bothering Dr. Hugo Eckener, builder and commander of the airship, is possible stowaways as it is known that some daring photographers and adventurous youths will leave no stones unturned to sneak into the dirigible. It was revealed that similar attempts were made in connection with the Bodensee.

POSTPONE ORDER FOR RESTRICTION CHAIN BROADCAST

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8. (AP)—The federal radio commission today postponed until January 31 the order restricting the broadcast of chain programs in cases where the transmitting sets were not at least 200 miles apart.

STORM KILLS ONE AND DOES DAMAGE ON PUGET SOUND

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 8. (AP)—Swept from a small boat, Hugh C. Frame, professor of business administration at the University of Washington, was drowned in Puget Sound near Point Monroe, Sunday, during a gale that is reported to have damaged scores of small craft.

Three other men—H. C. Reynolds of Bremerton, J. D. Bryce and D. Pulley of Gig Harbor—were rescued from their gas boat, which was shipping water rapidly and threatening to sink, by a sound ferry.

A pilot driver was blown ashore at the Alkali Point light and efforts of several lugs to pull her off have so far been unsuccessful. Many boats reported the loss of masts and other damage during the gale, which is said to have been the heaviest blow here in three years.

WITNESS TELLS OF HAPPENINGS MURDER RANCH

VANCOUVER, B. C., Oct. 8. (AP)—Shuddering at the recollection of a week spent on the Northwest ranch near Riverside, C.B.H., Jessie Clark, witness against Gordon Stewart Northcott, who stands accused of the death of four boys, broke her long silence Saturday night in an interview to a group of news-spectators.

Jessie told of the bringing to the Riverside ranch of a big load of fire wood. This, she said, her grandfather informed her, was to be used to "destroy the evidence."

After the cremation he said to Jessie, "Thank God, that's the end of that."

Stanford (her brother) told me how Stewart—we always called Northcott by that name—had stood in another room and shot a Mexican boy through the heart. He is a crack shot and, firing at an angle through the open door, hit the boy in the heart. He used a .22 rifle." She went on to tell how her brother had said that Northcott made his decapitate the body.

She said once Northcott struck her, knocking her down, she had a black eye for several days.

She told of her efforts to play the part of an unsuspecting visitor while desperately planning how to get her brother away from what she was convinced was a "murder ranch."

REFUND GRANT UPHELD

(Continued from Page One.)

lease approximately \$270,000 of Jackson county monies now held by the county treasurer in the suspense fund, for use of the county in the coming year's general fund or in payment of interest on bonded indebtedness, according to Assessor J. B. Coleman.

When the state filed its suit for a share of the O.C. refund the county established a "suspense fund" and set aside yearly the amount the state would receive in the event it won the suit.

The suit is now regarded as definitely settled and the Jackson county funds held up will be released as soon as the final papers are signed by the high court.

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POLITICS, HONOR, COUNT'S LUMBAGO CAUSE OF DUEL

ROME, Oct. 8. (AP) Prince Spada Potenzioli, retired governor of Rome, has defended his honor in the sword-wounding Prince Lancelotti in a duel and Roman society today was wondering what punishment was in store for the duelist.

Prince Potenzioli fought to vindicate the honesty of his administration of the oldest functioning municipality in the world in a garden of a villa outside of Rome. His duel was the second to grow out of a remark attributed to Prince Lancelotti that Premier Mussolini had dismissed Prince Potenzioli because of graft.

Count di Sambuy in whose presence Prince Lancelotti was alleged to have defamed the retired governor immediately challenged him to a duel. They fought with rapier and the count was wounded three times. He explained later that he was suffering from lumbago.

Prince Potenzioli on hearing that his voluntary defender had been wounded in avenging his honor immediately challenged Prince Lancelotti. The former governor succeeded in "nicking" his adversary and the referee stopped the fight.

There never have been any charges in the Roman newspapers against the administration of Prince Potenzioli. It was understood that his retirement on September 2, when Don Francesco Boncompagni Ludovisi, Prince of Piombino, succeeded him, was due to Mussolini's policy of changing administrative personnel frequently in order to build up an "elite" of fascists which would be thoroughly conversant with administrative problems.

Prince Potenzioli, who was host to Mayor James J. Walker of New York, when he visited Rome last year, returned the visit last May.

AIRPLANE CRASH TAKES SISTERS; PILOT MAY DIE

DENVER, Colo., Oct. 8. (AP) A tall spin was spun death for Carol and Mary Begole, daughters of City Auditor George Begole, when one of the sisters "froze" to the extra control stick of an airplane Sunday, causing it to crash near here from an altitude of 2000 feet.

Charles Wilson, pilot of the ill-fated plane is reported in a serious condition and may not recover.

Mary Begole, 22 years and her sister, Carol, 19, had planned for days upon the ride which ended so disastrously.

For several months Mary Begole had been a student flier.

After meeting her sister at a bus station, the two drove directly to the Dupont airport where they agreed to meet Charles Wilson, a student of the Denver School of Aeronautics. They immediately climbed into the plane and took off with Wilson at the controls.

Wilson who was still conscious when aid reached him, said that one of the girls became frightened and "froze" to the forward control. "It was helpless," he said, "I couldn't take the ship back, nor could I control it at all up there in the air. I cut the motor and shouted to let go the stick but there wasn't a chance and we crashed."

The plane struck in a field about two miles northwest of Derby, near Denver. It landed upon the tip of one wing, plowed along the ground for about 20 feet and then tipped over and crashed to pieces.

The two sisters, entangled in the wreckage, were instantly killed. Wilson was hurled from the plane and lay about 20 feet away when he was found. The clothing of the girls was torn to shreds.

Friendly Light

Keeps Prowlers Away

An experienced police officer said recently: "Night prowlers naturally avoid lighted houses. A light in the hall or on the porch indicates occupants may be up and around. A lighted home is safer than a dark one."

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News of the Gridiron

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Whether the big gridiron battles this Fall are in the East, West or South the Associated Press will be there to bring the story to you.

Horace Renegar will cover the principal games in the South, Charles W. Dunkley will describe the Mid-West battles, J.H. Anderson is in the Southwest, Russell J. Newland in the West and Edward J. Neil, Brian Bell, Ted Vosburgh and W.P. King in the East writing graphic stories of the campaign. Alan J. Gould, general sports editor, will cover many of the outstanding games.

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