

Lee Schlesinger Silent On Reason for Strange Vanishment to Brazil

Former Portland Department Store Head Now Leading "Second Life" as Rio de Janeiro Importer

By GIBSFORD FINE, United Press Staff Correspondent. (Copyright, 1934, by United Press.)

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Dec. 13.—(UP)—The drama of a wealthy, socially prominent man who vanished on the Pacific coast two years ago to start life anew in South America, came to a new climax with his discovery by the United Press here last week.

The man, Lee Schlesinger, of a family highly prominent in California and Oregon, is leading his "second life" in Rio de Janeiro under an assumed name. He is a business man here, and plans to remain one, having carefully removed all traces of his past.

He is married and the father of two children in the United States. The family operates department stores in Portland, San Francisco and Oakland, under a firm name of B. F. Schlesinger, Inc.

Disappeared in 1932. Schlesinger dropped out of his old life on the night of December 28, 1932. He had been at the home of friends in Vancouver, Wn., across the Columbia river from Portland, who never saw him again after he stepped into his big motor car and drove off, apparently in good spirits.

The automobile was found in 18 feet of water off the gravel dock in Vancouver, but grapplers and divers searched a week without finding the body.

Insurance between \$200,000 and \$500,000 was reported to have been carried on Schlesinger's life when he vanished, but no claim ever was made for it.

Schlesinger readily admitted his identity to the United Press, but refused to say why he disappeared. He asked only that the facts be kept secret locally, to save him from social and business embarrassment.

He also said the family and the insurance company have been aware that he is here, but that nobody in the world knows the reason for his vanishing, except himself.

"It is for good and sufficient private reasons," Schlesinger said. "It is nobody's business but my own. I am certain there is no real public interest in me, nor any justifiable reason for telling my business. Nobody but a few morbid persons can possibly desire to know."

"I have committed no crime and done nothing for which I am ashamed. I desire merely to live my own life in my own way. Above all, I hope this disclosure will bring no embarrassment or trouble to my family. They have had enough."

The publisher insisted he had no money beyond what he earns in Brazil. He said the family also now is without resources and that the Schlesinger stores, of which he was once vice-president, are now "in the hands of the bankers."

Schlesinger lives alone in an apartment. He is conducting a small importing business of his own in Brazil, centering largely in interior towns.

The Great Dismal swamp in North Carolina and Virginia covers an area of about 1500 square miles.

IF YOUR BREATH HAS A SMELL YOU CAN'T FEEL WELL

When we eat too much, our food decays in our bowels. Our friends smell this decay coming out of our mouths and call it bad breath. We feel the poison of this decay all over our body. It makes us gloomy, nervous and no good for anything. What makes the food decay in the bowels? Well, when we eat too much, our bile juice can't digest it. What is the bile juice? It is the most vital digestive juice in our body. Unless 2 pints of it are flowing from our liver into our bowels every day, our movements get hard and constipated and 1/4 of our food decays in our 25 feet of bowels. This decay sends poisons all over our body every six minutes.



When our friends smell our bad breath (but we don't) and we feel like a whipped tomato, don't use a mouthwash or take a laxative. Get the cause. Take Carter's Little Liver Pills. They gently start the flow of your bile juice. But if "something better" is offered you, don't buy it. For may be a calomel (mercurous) pill, which loosens teeth, gripes and scalds the return in many people. Ask for Carter's Little Liver Pills by name and get what you ask for—25¢. ©1934, C.M.Co.

PORTLAND DEC. 13 to JAN. 1 Be back by midnight, Jan. 13 Special reduced fare, good in warm, roomy coaches, on fast trains. Low holiday fares also apply to other points. Ask agent for details.

Southern Pacific

J. C. CARLE, Agent, Tel. 34

McCrise of Vancouver. McCrise said he did not believe Schlesinger was in the car when it plunged into the river.

Scandal Hinted. The Massachusetts Life Insurance company, which held a \$25,000 policy on Schlesinger's life, provided public hint of scandal in October, 1933. The firm filed suit in San Francisco federal court against a bank and trust company, acting as trustee for the Schlesinger estate. It asked permission to subpoena witnesses and take depositions to show whether Schlesinger was financially embarrassed when he disappeared; whether he had been living in excess of his income; whether he had been demoted in his executive position at the store; whether the fact that he carried \$200,000 life insurance might not be incentive for him to falsely establish his "death."

The suit, however, was dropped. Last June an official of the Massachusetts Mutual told the United Press in Boston that Schlesinger was living in South America and that insurance companies would oppose any effort to collect the policy.

No effort ever was made by beneficiaries, however, to cash in on the policy.

DEATH THEORIES NEVER SATISFIED PORTLAND POLICE

PORTLAND, Dec. 13.—(UP)—When the United Press found and interviewed Lee Schlesinger in Rio de Janeiro last week, a two-year-old suspicion that he disappeared under fabricated circumstances definitely was confirmed.

The mystery of his disappearance perplexed authorities of the Pacific coast and led to scores of sensational rumors.

That Schlesinger dropped from sight voluntarily was the most persistent report. His reason for building up circumstances apparently establishing his own death never was disclosed.

Schlesinger is the son of B. F. Schlesinger, owner of department stores in Oakland, San Francisco and Portland. He was manager of one of the stores here when he disappeared.

He was graduated from Stanford university and married a classmate, the former Laura Anderson of Los Angeles. They have two children, Eleanor, 10, and Lee Jr., 6, now living with their mother in California.

Schlesinger was a social leader and widely known as a polo player. He drove to Vancouver, Wash., army barracks the evening of December 28, 1932, to discuss polo with a friend. He left there at 11:30 p. m., and a barracks guard saw him drive toward the Interstate bridge across the Columbia river, the radio in his expensive phantom turned on a musical program.

This was the last seen in this region of Lee Schlesinger. The next day his automobile was located under 18 feet of water at the end of a gravel dock in Vancouver.

Surface indications were that Schlesinger mistook the dock for the bridge approach, drove into the river and was drowned. The car was raised and grapplers and divers searched for a week without finding a body.

The missing man's father came here and offered \$500 reward for recovery of the body.

Suspicious Aroused. Insurance companies that held policies on Schlesinger's life, reportedly valued at from \$200,000 to \$500,000, were immediately suspicious. The investigators went to work.

Rumors started flying. They were climaxed on January 19, 1933, in a public announcement by Sheriff R. E.

ELKS TO INITIATE SIX AT MEETING

Medford lodge, B. F. O. Elks, will hold an initiation ceremony at the lodge meeting this evening at the Elks' temple, when six new members will ride the goat, and three others will be transferred into the lodge through transfer demit.

With these additions to the rolls, a total of 193 new members will have been added to the lodge this year.

Those who will be initiated are: W. B. Johnston, Jr., Manuel Liebman, Franklin H. George, Thomas N. Billings, Kenneth W. Parrett, Kelton Strader.

Those transferred are Robert La Rocque, from Caldwell, Idaho; J. F. Moore, from Portland; James K. Waagsmoit, from Hood River.

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FAIR ENFORCEMENT NEAR IMPOSSIBLE AVERS CHAIRMAN

(Continued from page one.)

It is demanding of business that it accept a greater measure of social responsibility than it has ever borne before."

He spoke before a gathering of the American Arbitration association, the Chamber of Commerce of the state of New York and the Merchants' association of New York.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP) NRA was blamed today for the "chaotic" condition in the lumber industry, due to failure to enforce the code, by Lee Robinson, of Mt. Vernon, Ala., former president of the Hardwood Manufacturers' Institute.

Robinson painted a dark picture of conditions in the industry in the south and declared "the responsibility for the present situation rests squarely on NRA and not on the industry." He appeared at the hearings on the West Coast Lumbermen's association petition for elimination of price fixing.

The Alabama operator opposed the petition, but argued that unless NRA gave immediate enforcement the entire code should be dropped. Robinson disagreed with opponents of price fixing who had testified that wage and hour provisions of the code would not be affected by elimination of prices.

FOUR BOYS ACCUSED OF STEALING BEER

Four Medford juveniles were picked up by city police last night for the theft of a keg of beer from the rear of the Gold Seal creamery and of a bicycle belonging to Mervin Baglien of 719 West Tenth street.

All about 15 years of age, the boys are scheduled to appear before County Judge Earl B. Day in juvenile court either Saturday or Monday to answer charges of larceny. City police said they had used the bicycle to haul the beer keg away.

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Sues President's Son



Mrs. Daniel P. O'Leary, 60, who claims she was injured when struck by an automobile driven by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., son of the President, sought \$25,000 damages in a suit against young Roosevelt. She lives in East Boston, Mass. (Associated Press Photo)

LOCALS

From Ashland—Mr. and Mrs. Elmer P. Jones of Ashland were Medford visitors Tuesday evening, the Ashland Daily Tidings states.

Are Medford Visitors—Mrs. William Longan and the Misses Virginia and Georgia Melcher, all of this city, spent Tuesday in Medford visiting friends.—Grants Pass Daily Courier.

Go to Cave City—Attorney M. O. Wilkins and Mrs. Wilkins of Medford were business visitors in Grants Pass Tuesday, according to the Grants Pass Daily Courier.

On Business Visit—J. G. Edwards, commercial agent for Missouri Pacific lines, is in Medford today, making business calls on industrial organizations.

Take Class to Ashland—Ruth Luy, prominent Medford instructor of the dance, is taking a group of her pupils to Ashland Friday evening, for a dance review between shows at the Litch theatre.

Visit Ashland—Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Gervais of Medford were calling on local merchants Tuesday. Mr. Gervais, who represents Baker Hamilton and Pacific company of San Francisco in this territory, had just returned from a trip to the Bay city where his marriage to Mrs. Gervais occurred.—Ashland Daily Tidings.

DUTRA SINKS LONG PUTT FOR \$1300

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 13.—(AP) Slightly injured in the crash of a bridge that threw a dozen spectators into five feet of water in a canal at the 71st green, Olin Dutra, national open champion, came back to sink a 45-foot birdie four on the last hole and win the \$12,500 Miami Biltmore golf tournament today with a 292. His victory enriched him by \$1200.

Mike Turnesa of Elmford, N. Y., finished in second place with 294 to win, and Orville White of St. Louis wound up a stroke behind in third place with 295 to take \$900.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

HUGE PROFITS FOR MUNITION MAKERS EXPOSED IN PROBE

(Continued from page one.)

80 per cent of the profits through the excess profits tax in effect during the war.

His continued, however, to fill the record with names.

Forty seven persons reported incomes of \$1,000,000 or more in 1917, who had not previously made that much.

The names of Astors, Du Ponts, Morgans and Vanderbilts dotted another list of individuals who reported annual million-dollar incomes through the war years. Most of these, however, had big incomes before the conflict.

The committee's action was not designed to add impetus to the program inaugurated by the president. It was an independent and long planned offensive to create world sentiment for disarmament.

RAIN AND SNOW FALLS IN WESTERN STATES

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—(AP)—One of the most general rains and snow storms of the winter spread itself over six western states today, the weather bureau here reported.

Rain fell in Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Arizona and New Mexico. In California, the rain was moderately heavy, particularly in the south. Snow was falling above the 6000-foot level in the mountains and warm rain below.

BANKHEAD WITHDRAWS FROM SPEAKER RACE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Representative William B. Bankhead of Alabama today withdrew from the speakership contest but announced his candidacy for the house Democratic floor leadership.

The withdrawal led the elevation of Representative Joseph W. Byrns of Tennessee to the speakership to be taken all the more for granted on Capitol Hill.

Al Courtney, Byrns, Kas., rancher, forecast a mild winter for 1934-1935 when he saw rattlesnakes ambling about late in November.

A German Bible printed at Nuremberg in 1793 is a cherished relic in the library of Lenoir-Rhyne college at Hickory, N. C.

The cost of the 1934 fall election in McCall county, Texas, ranged from 14 cents to \$1.87 a vote with an average of 56 cents, county clerk's figures showed.

The "Alumna" converted ship which makes and sells beer as it is being towed to southeastern Alaska ports, is expected to give the territory from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in beer tax revenue.

In the early days of the United States postal service the fees for sending an envelope containing a single sheet of paper ranged from 6 cents for the first 30 miles to 25 cents for 100 miles.

Christmas Benefit DANCE FRIDAY NIGHT at the Oriental Gardens Jointly Sponsored By The MEDFORD'S LION'S CLUB and MEDFORD POST 15 AMERICAN LEGION Proceeds will be used for Christmas Toys for the kiddies. Be sure to enjoy this big party and help a worthy cause. Tickets obtainable from any Lion or Legionnaire

SERVE THREE PAY FOR TWO IT'S A FACT—Old Farm goes farther. An ounce of this heavy-bodied rye does the work of an ounce and a half of ordinary rye. That's because it's real rye—made by the famous Old Overholt distillers, and naturally ripened 16 months in wood. 90¢ A PINT Insist on OLD FARM PENNSYLVANIA STRAIGHT RYE WHISKEY THIS EMBLEM NATIONAL DISTILLERS PROTECTS YOU

BOYD'S MARKET Plenty of Parking Space-Free Delivery on Orders of \$1 or Over Open Sundays till 11:30 A. M. 108 No. Ivy. Phone 1054-J Specials for Friday, Saturday and Monday, Dec. 14, 15, 17 SUGAR Pure Cane 8-lb. bag 43c POWDERED, 2 lb. pkg. 13c BROWN, 2 lb. pkg. 12c Sunkist - CITRUS FRUITS - Sunkist LEMONS, fancy, 360 size, doz. 25c ORANGES, 176's, doz. 18c 126's, dozen 29c GRAPEFRUIT, Arizona Seedless, 80's, dozen 47c CATSUP, Knight's Rogue River, 18 oz. bottles 19c TOMATO JUICE, Knight's, No. 1 tall tins 3 for 23c TOMATOES, Josephine Standards, No. 2 1/2 tins 3 for 27c GORN, Excelsior Brand, No. 2 tins 3 for 29c PEAS, Pierce's, No. 1 tall tins 3 for 29c PORK AND BEANS, Van Camp's, 1 lb. 11 oz. tins 3 for 27c HOMINY, Van Camp's, No. 2 1/2 size 3 for 23c SALMON, Alaska Red, Daisy Brand, No. 1 tins 2 for 27c FIG BARS, Whole Wheat, fresh 2 lbs. for 23c BAKING POWDER, Glabber Girl, 2 lb. cans 19c COFFEE HILLS blue can 2 lbs. 49c HILLS Red can, lb. 31c-2 lb. 60c M.J.B., lb. can 31c-3-lb. can 88c GOLDEN WEST, lb. jar 30c 3-lb. jar 86c GALLO ROJO, fresh grd., lb. bag 19c SHORTENING FRY'S, 2 lb. packages 23c CRESCENT, 4 lb. cartons 50c JEWEL Pure Vegetable, 4 lb. 54c OLEO, Gem Nut 2 lb. 27c MILK Teacup, 3 cans Case \$2.71 17c FLOUR Klamath Bouquet Brand, 49 lb. \$1.59 Kitchen Queen, 49 lb. bsg. \$1.79 DRIFTED SNOW, 49 lb. bag \$2.12 SALAD OIL, bulk double refined, Bring your containers. Qts. 18c COCOA, Mother's, 2 lb. tins 18c TOILET PAPER, Astoria 5 rolls 18c RAISINS, Ehrman's Specials, 4 lb. packages 27c CAKE FLOUR, Crown, 4 lb. bags 39c ONIONS, Spanish Sweets, 10 lbs. 17c SOUP, Campbell's, all kinds, 3 for 25c JELL WELL, all flavors 5 pkgs. 21c BAKING SODA, Bikarb, 1 lb. pkgs. 5c WALNUTS, extra fcy. budded, lb. 22c OATS, Sperry's Quick or Regular, No. 10 bag 41c PANCAKE FLOUR, Sperry's No. 10 bags 48c WAX PAPER, Diamond Brand, 125 ft. rolls 15c VANILLA FLAVORING, Bunny Brand, 4 oz. bottles 11c SPICES, Schillings, all kinds, 2 oz. tins 3 for 25c SOAP PRIDE SOAP POWDER, lg. pkgs. 10c CRYSTAL WHITE SOAP, 10 bars, one 23 oz. pkg. Peets Granulated 29c Soap Free 29c RINSO, large packages 20c IVORY SOAP, medium size bars 5c CANDY Imperial Radio Mixed, 2 lbs. 23c Baker's Sweet Chocolate, 1 lb. cakes 17c

SANTA CLAUS COMES TO PENNEY'S By special arrangement with the WESTERN UNION, Santa Claus will receive messages direct from his North Pole Headquarters, to the J. C. Penney Co., Inc., in our Sixth Street Window THURSDAY—FRIDAY—SATURDAY FREE BALLOONS TO ALL CHILDREN IN PENNEY'S TOYLAND Special Saturday Only—two of Medford's Football Stars will demonstrate the New and Popular Football Game in our TOYLAND. YOU'RE ALL INVITED GREET SANTA AT PENNEY'S