

**Senate Confirms
Choice of Purvine**
Salem - (UP) - The Senate Monday unanimously confirmed the appointment of Dr. Ralph E. Purvine, Salem, to the Board of Higher Education.

Portland - (UP) - Dr. William B. Prophet, former mayor of John Day, has been elected president of the Oregon State Dental association.

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by Alice Brooks
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Anna Anderson's Claim To Be Member of Czarist Family Declared Fantastic Hoax

Editor's note: A German court has reopened the case of Anna Anderson, who now lives in a hut at the edge of the Black Forest in West Germany, but who claims to be the Grand Duchess Anastasia of Russia. Judge Heinrich Backen, a member of the Hamburg Civil Court, plans to interview witnesses in the United States and Canada soon in an attempt to resolve the intriguing case. In the following interview Prince Vasilii Romanov gives his views on the case. He now is a San Francisco stock broker. A first cousin of Anastasia, he was her childhood playmate.

By RONALD WAGONER
San Francisco - (UP) - One of the royal family of Czarist Russia said today the claim of a woman in Europe that she is the Russian Grand Duchess Anastasia is without any foundation in fact.
Prince Vasilii Romanov, who as a child played with Anastasia, said he was sure he reflected the belief of all remaining members of his family. In fact he was quite emphatic.

"It's asinine. It's so ridiculous that it's unbelievable," said Prince Vasilii, now a San Francisco stockbroker.

Why, he asked, would the members of the royal family of Czarist Russia wish to disclaim any legitimate relative? No money is involved and the remaining members of the family are convinced that the woman claiming to be Princess Anastasia is a fraud.

Dramatized Story
For 37 years Anna Anderson, a middle-aged woman now living in a shack on the edge of West Germany's Black Forest, has claimed that she is Anastasia, youngest daughter of the last czar of Russia and sole survivor of the Red Army massacre of the royal family in 1918.

Dramatized in stage play, movie and book, the Anastasia case is one of the century's most baffling royal mysteries. Now it is headed toward a new court test in Hamburg.

The riddle is made even more intriguing by rumors that as much as 30 million gold rubles were deposited in the Bank of England by Czar Nicholas II during World War I.

Devoted Family
Prince Vasilii is a first cousin of Anastasia. He insists that Anna Anderson, who claims to be Anastasia, is an impostor.

What incenses him the most about her claim is not that she might inherit a fortune left by the czar; he is convinced there is none.

Rather, it is the implication that the surviving members of the royal family, "this really devoted and devoted family," would deliberately refuse to recognize their own kin.

He said the Grand Duchess Olga met Anna Anderson face to face, as did many members of the imperial household, and agreed that she was not her niece, Anastasia. Grand Duchess Olga, now living in Toronto, Canada, as Mrs. Olga Kulikovsky, was the czar's sister.

Nothing But Truth
"The Grand Duchess Olga, the aunt of Anastasia, loved her brother and his family," he said. "Do you think that she would not recognize her own niece? Do you think that the members of the household whose loyalty, integrity and honesty cannot be questioned, would not recognize her as the real grand duchess? Don't you realize the joy that they would have felt if this woman were really the Grand Duchess Anastasia? What would have prompted those people to say that she was an impostor? Nothing but the truth."

Prince Vasilii said his grandmother, the late Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, was alive when Anna Anderson first claimed to be Anastasia. So were King George V of England, King Christian X of Denmark, King Haakon of Norway and Prince Henry of Hesse (Germany), all of whom were related to Anastasia. None recognized Anna Anderson as the grand duchess, he said.

Prince Vasilii said he was sure the present Communist regime in Russia was "delighted" over the Anastasia controversy because it served to discredit the reputations of Empress Maria Feodorovna; his mother, Grand Duchess Xenia of London, and his aunt, Grand Duchess Olga of Toronto.

He conceded that some of the supporters of Miss Anderson's claim may be the victims of "sentimental hysteria" and sincere in their desire to recognize her as the grand duchess.

In the meantime, a German judge plans to come to North America late in March or early April to gather fresh evidence that might put to rest the Anastasia mystery once and for all.

German Judge
Judge Heinrich Backen is a member of the Hamburg civil court that reopened the case about 14 months ago after Miss Anderson suffered legal setbacks in 1933 and 1937. Backen will interview witnesses in Canada and the United States on behalf of the court.

One of the witnesses he is scheduled to see is Mrs. Herman Jud, Glen Cove, New York, Grand Duchess Xenia. She said in a sworn statement last May that she believed Miss Anderson is Anastasia. But court officials said she appeared to have made the reservation that she would only recognize Mrs. Anderson as Anastasia if she refrained from seeking official recognition.

The Hamburg court also wants to check scars on Mrs. Anderson's feet. She said they were the result of bayonet wounds suffered when Red Army troops executed the czar's family in the basement of a house in a Siberian village July 16, 1918.

Claims She's Peasant
The German House of Hesse claims the scars were left after an explosion in a Berlin ammunition factory where Miss Anderson worked in World War I. The House of Hesse, which opposed Miss Anderson in court tests, claimed she was actually one Franziska Schanskowski, member of a Polish peasant family.

The court also will determine any physical resemblance of Anna Anderson to the royal family, along with her knowledge of the Russian language.

When Anna Anderson first proclaimed herself as Anastasia, a year and a half after being pulled from a Berlin canal as a would-be suicide, the strongest factor supporting her story was her detailed knowledge of personalities and events of the Russian court.

Tale of Escape
She told a harrowing tale of escaping the fate of her father, mother, three sisters and brother and several members of the royal household. She said a member of the execution party, Alexander Tchaikovsky, noticed she was still alive and rescued her.

She said he, with his brother, mother and sister, took her across Russia in a farm cart and escaped over the border into Rumania. She subsequently gave birth to a child and married Tchaikovsky, she said, and he later was killed in an unexplained street shooting. Soon afterward she traveled to Berlin and attempted suicide, she said.

Prince Vasilii, who escaped from Russia aboard a British battleship in the Black Sea in 1919, describes it all in two words, "Fantastic hoax."

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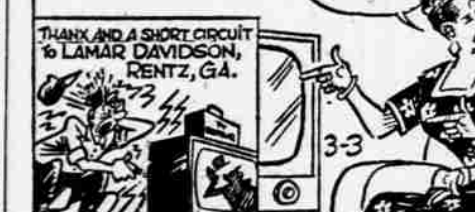
They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

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SO THE PROGRAM ENDS AND THEN THEY COME BACK TO TERRA COTTA...



Prisoners Saw Way Out of Jail

Portland - (UP) - Two prisoners sawed their way out of the sixth floor city jail trusty quarters Sunday night.

The escapees were identified as Cecil Ray Denney, 20, and Ronald P. Clancy, 21. Police Sgt. A. L. Cook said the men used a tiny hacksaw blade to cut a padlock on a door leading to the roof and made their way to freedom down a fire escape.

The city of Chicago, the nation's second largest city, was incorporated March 4, 1837.

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Man Wants Whiskey On Accredited List
London - (UP) - John Wagstaff, a lifelong teetotaler, has written Mrs. E. M. Bradock, his representative in Parliament, demanding that whiskey be included on the accredited medicines list of the national health scheme.

Wagstaff said his doctor had ordered him to drink four whiskeys a day because of an artery complaint.

WARM IN DIEPPE
Dieppe, France - (UP) - The mercury climbed to a summery 70 degrees here Sunday. Many Frenchmen donned bathing suits and jumped into the surf for a swim.

Sea Lion Caves Would Become Park
Salem - (UP) - Sen. Monroe Sweetland (D-Milwaukie) said Monday he and other senators have prepared a resolution for introduction in the Legislature to make Sea Lion Caves on the Oregon coast a state park.

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