

SLAYER OF HOOSIER SET FIRE TO BODY BEFORE DEATH

FIEND'S WORK LAID BARE IN MEDLOCK CASE

Inquest at Bloomington Lays Murder to Unknown Person.

KILLING WITHOUT CLEW Probe Under Way Since Sunday Fails of Results.

BY CHARLES C. STONE
State Editor, The Times

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Jan. 24.—One of the most brutal killers in the history of Indiana is still at large today—the person who ended the life of Ellis A. Medlock, 23, farmer near Kirksville, Monroe County, setting fire to an inflammable liquid on the body while it still held life.

Sheriff W. S. Curry today gave little hope of an early capture of the slayer, if ever. It is "the murder case without a clew."

Although Medlock had been missing since Friday, 13, the case was not reported to authorities until last Friday. Sheriff Curry declared today that this delay gave the slayer a good start in escaping.

Slayer "Unknown Person"
The inquest held by Dr. F. F. Tourner, Monroe County coroner, resulted in a finding that Medlock came to his death by being struck on the head with a blunt instrument, "in the hands of an unknown person." That Medlock was still alive when flames enveloped his body was proved, the coroner held, by the fact that there were blisters on the body. Burning of a corpse will not produce blisters.

During his investigations Monday, Sheriff Curry was handed a note by a man known to him but whose identity he refuses to disclose, and he is also keeping secret the contents of the note. He said today, however, that the note "didn't amount to anything," comparing it to missives school children pass to each other.

Women Accusers, Belief
Other information regarding the note was to the effect it contained the names of men suspected by the writers, evidently three women. The sheriff denied any persons were accused.

So far there has been no developments affecting the theory that Medlock was the victim of liquor dealing trouble, his wife having admitted that when he left home Saturday it was for the purpose of delivering a gallon of white mulled whiskey.

The battered, partially burned body was found in a thicket near the Medlock home, Sunday.

Body Frozen in Ground
Sam and George Hughes, brothers, found the body. It was badly frozen and so deeply imbedded in frosty earth that steel crowbars were used in loosening it. After removal to a morgue here cold water was played over the body to thaw it sufficiently to be prepared for burial.

Funeral services for the murder victim were held this morning. Besides the widow and two daughters, 2 and 5, respectively, Medlock leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Medlock, three brothers and two sisters, all living here.

CLUB TO HEAR WETZEL
Keystone Press Head Will Speak at Dinner Tonight.

Julian Wetzels, president of the Keystone Press, Indianapolis, will speak at the January meeting of the Men's Club of the Carrollton Avenue Reformed Church, tonight, William Lilly, president, announced today. Wetzels will speak on "Old Boys and Young."

The meeting has been designated as Father and Son night.

Dinner will be served at 6:30, by members of the Women's Service Circle of the Church. Musical numbers by Herbert Rennard, violinist, and the Carrollton Avenue Quartet, and other entertainment will be presented. The dinner and meeting are open to all men of the community.

INSTRUCT STATE POLICE
Criminal Bureau Officials Teach Cooperation to Men.

Twelve members of the State police assigned to the northern district were given instruction today in the best methods of cooperating with police authorities in the apprehension of criminals, and in working with the recently established criminal identification bureau.

The meeting was held at the Lincoln. Speakers were Chief Robert Hume, Chauncey Manning, bureau head, and Frederick E. Schortemeier, secretary of State.

QUESTIONED ABOUT FIRE
Negro Held by Police Quizzed in Four Arson Cases.

John Barber, 35, Negro, 652 Athol St., is held in city prison today for questioning in the investigation of four incendiary fires on Johnson, Douglas and Kinney Sts., in the last month. All the fires were within a half block. He was arrested on a vagrancy charge by Sgt. John Sheehan Monday night.

"Ghost" Dodges Bullets
BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Jan. 24.—The latest episode in the effort to lay "the ghost of the Red Hog quarry district," south of Clear Creek, was a shooting party led by Noble Sice and including six other men. Shots were fired, but the "ghost" is still at large.

BOY, 13, USES GUN TO ROUT BURGLAR

Reading Alone, His Parents Gone, Lad Chases Away Intruder.

Robert Osborne, 13, sat reading in the living room of his home, 736 Cottage Ave., late Monday.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Osborne, were away.

Suddenly Robert saw the family cat arch his back and spit in the direction of a bedroom door.

Then Robert heard a footstep in the bedroom.

Cold chills electrified the youngster, but his nerve stood the test. He told the rest thus:

"I knew where my father's revolver was. I got it out of another bedroom and was just starting for the room where I heard the noise when a man opened it. He jerked when he saw I was pointing a gun at him and began in a nervous voice to try to talk me out of it."

He said if I wouldn't shoot or call the police he would go and run out the back door.

The boy notified neighbors and then called police. The burglar had ransacked the bedroom.

CAR PLUNGE IN RIVER KILLS 7

Family Trapped in Sedan by Crash.

By United Press

NEW LONDON, Conn., Jan. 24.—Seven members of the family of Robert Whitaker were drowned today when their motor car plunged off a bridge into the Thames River after a collision with a motorcycle.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker and their five children were in the machine. The bodies of all but two of the children have been recovered.

The auto was struck by a motorcycle ridden by Harris Preston. His leg was fractured.

Apparently none of the occupants had opportunity to escape from the closed motor car before it fell into the river. One door was partly open and only three bodies were found in the sedan, so it was believed the mother had tried to get her children out of the car to safety.

It was extremely cold and the shock of the icy water contributed to the deaths of the seven.

Five Burned to Death
RAWLINS, Wyo., Jan. 24.—Five members of a family were burned to death at McRadden, an oil town ten miles north of Rock River, today when their home caught fire from an over-heated stove, reports received here said.

The dead were John King, his wife and three sons, aged 6, 8 and 10.

RULES ON PARK LANDS
Gilliom Decides State Has Power to Condemn Property.

Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom ruled today that the Governor and the State conservation department have the power to exercise the right of eminent domain in condemning property wanted by county commissioners for parks to be turned over to the State.

The ruling came in relation to the formation of the Tri-County Park, where 105 acres remain to be purchased by commissioners of Sullivan, Clay and Greene Counties. All such parks must have approval of the Governor and the conservation department.

WOMAN TRIES SUICIDE
Desire for Her Children of Former Marriage Blamed.

Despondency brought on by desire for her children of a former marriage who are living with their father, caused Mrs. Elsie Hall, 31, of 637 Arbor Ave., to attempt to commit suicide by poison, police said.

Mrs. Hall at first refused to go to city hospital, declaring, "Let me alone. I want to die if I can't live with the children," police said. Hospital attaches said she will recover.

Find Helium Gas in Europe
BERLIN, Jan. 24.—The first known deposit of helium gas in Europe has been found at Russelsheim, Boden, 600 meters under the surface. The deposit is said to be extensive.

HARVARD ISN'T HARVARD ANY MORE—TO ALUMNI—FOR 'COPEY' HAS RESIGNED

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—Life may go on at Harvard, the old school may take its annual football lickings from Yale and even Princeton, but for many of its most famous alumni and equal numbers of its most obscure hinds, the tang has gone out of Harvard.

"Copey" is Charles Townsend Copeland, and he resigned the Boylston professorship of rhetoric while the ink was still wet on an article in the New Yorker by Hey-

wood Brown predicting that while "Copey" for the last ten years "has talked constantly of dying, or at any rate, retiring" he would do neither.

This is some measure of the shock with which the news from Cambridge was received by New York literati.

"Copey," said one of them today, "is the only Harvard professor, the possibility of whose resignation is worth a magazine article and whose actual retirement is front page Metropolitan news."

Brown was not "Copey's" favorite pupil, although he has



Robert Osborne

TRAFFIC CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS ON THURSDAY

Choice of Two Shipper Members for Presidency.

The Indianapolis Traffic Club will elect 1928 officers at its annual business meeting at the Severin Thursday evening.

The club constitution provides the presidency be alternated between the carrier and shipper groups of the club, a shipper must be chosen as the new president.

Nominees are L. E. Banta, Board of Trade traffic manager, and Edgar E. Mills, Fairbanks-Morse company traffic manager.

Helm automatically will become a board of governors members for two years.

Jazz Step to Art
NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—The "jazz age" is the beginning of a great cultural and artistic movement in the United States, Otto Kahn believes.

BURGLARS ACTIVE

Negroes Sought for Thefts at North Side Homes.

Police today hunted two Negroes suspected of robbing two north side homes Monday night and attempting a burglary at another.

Mrs. Bertha Brown, 3650 Fall Creek Blvd., found two Negroes attempting to open a window as she arrived home. They walked leisurely away, she said.

The same two men are believed to have broken into the home of Albert Metzger, 3120 N. Meridian St., taking clothing valued at \$300, and L. Schmutte, 5426 Carrollton Ave., taking jewelry valued at \$365.

The burglars are in Cuba. The burglary was reported by a maid.

Max Merritt, 5414 Guilford Ave., reported a child's bank and \$3 stolen from his home. Mrs. F. S. Hassler, 1450 College Ave., valued a ring taken from her home at \$200.

MAYOR ASKS DIVORCE
Herbert Males, Evansville, Says Wife Won't Live With Him.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Jan. 24.—Asserting that his wife, Mrs. Anna Males, has refused to live with him for three months, Herbert Males, Evansville mayor, has filed suit for divorce.

The complaint contains charges that Mrs. Males "quarreled, nagged and fussed" at the mayor and finally refused to live with him. The mayor and his wife were married in 1895.

Two Sued in Auto Death
RUSHVILLE, Ind., Jan. 24.—Death here of Miller J. Ogden has caused filing of a \$10,000 damage suit against two motorists by Chester M. George, administrator. It is alleged that after Miller was hurled to the ground by a car driven by Jesse M. Poe, another driven by Dr. John M. Lee ran over him.

TAKE LIVES FOR CANDY
MULLENS, W. Va., Jan. 24.—Enoch Tolliver, 85, and his wife were killed in their little store at Pierpont, near here, for the price of a pound of cheap candy.

The aged couple, authorities believe, gave their lives for the small change, totaling 58 cents, found near the scene of the double tragedy.

DEBT THAT CAUSED WORRY HAS BEEN PAID, SAYS FATHER
"Come home, Leland, your mother is ill from grief and the debt that worried you has been paid."

This message was broadcast today to Leland Dorsett, 15, of 1928 Lexington Ave., by his father.

The boy left home Sunday with another boy. They were last seen walking south on Michigan Rd. Leland was wearing a bright red sweater.

ALLOW BISHOP STATEMENT IN JACKSON TRIAL

Deposition of Minister in Favor of Governor to Be Used Feb. 7.

The State will permit introduction of the deposition of Bishop H. H. Fout of the United Brethren church in favor of Governor Ed Jackson in his conspiracy to bribe trial, Feb. 7.

Prosecutor William H. Remy and Special Prosecutor Emsley W. Johnson announced this today.

Bishop Fout, regarded as the chief witness for Jackson, has started on an European tour and will not be here for the trial. Defense attorneys several days ago submitted his statement to prosecutors. They must approve it before it can be used.

Bishops Explain Deal
Fout declared in the deposition that he asked Jackson (then secretary of State), in December, 1923, to go to Warren T. McCray, then Governor, and urge appointment of James E. McDonald as prosecuting attorney to succeed William P. Evans, McCray's son-in-law, who was resigning.

The State contends that Jackson, George V. Coffin, Republican county chairman, and Attorney Robert I. Marsh conspired to induce McCray to appoint McDonald—so they could enhance their political control—in return for \$10,000 and a guarantee McCray would not be convicted in an Indiana court. McCray was in financial difficulties at that time.

It was agreed Monday afternoon that Special Judge Charles M. McCabe would grant the three defendants separate trials and that Jackson would be tried first, Feb. 7.

Will Call Special Venue
County Clerk George O. Hutsell announced that in anticipation the drawing of a special venire of 100 names for the Jackson jury a number of new names will be placed in the jury box soon. The box is nearly empty, he said.

The defendants will be arraigned either before or on Feb. 7, the judge said. McCabe said he will be prepared to come to Indianapolis any time between now and the trial date to receive the pleas and to grant formally the separate trial motions.

The court signed an order for two special jury venires of fifty persons each. They will be drawn Jan. 30. The first will report the morning of Feb. 7 and the second on the following day.

Body Found in Field
MUNCIE, Ind., Jan. 24.—Funeral services were held here today for Newell Jester, 71, whose body was found in a corn field near the city Monday. Death was due to heart disease. The aged man disappeared Dec. 29 from the home of his son, Floyd J. Jester. The body was found by John Anthony who went into the field to husk corn.

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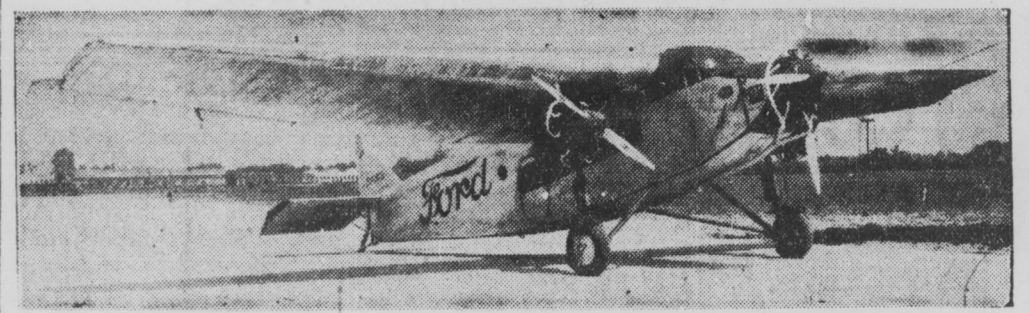
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FORD'S FLIVVER PLANE OFF FOR FIRST ENDURANCE TEST



Harry Brooks Starts Non-Stop Dash From Detroit Plant to Miami; Only Fifty Gallons of Gas Carried for Long Trip.

By United Press
FORD AIRPORT, DETROIT, Jan. 24.—The flivver airplane started on its initial endurance flight today, when Harry Brooks, Ford Motor Company pilot, left here at 7:15 a. m. on a nonstop flight to Miami, Fla.

Brooks, who piloted Mrs. Evangeline Lindbergh to Mexico City to spend Christmas with her son, taxied the newest Ford creation across a field muddy from snow and rain. The two-cylinder motor, just perfected, responded with a roar to the throttle pressure and almost leaped into the air and on to the Southern metropolises.

The plane carried fifty gallons of gasoline and five gallons of oil. That was regarded as sufficient for the trip, as it consumes but two and one-half gallons of fuel an hour.

Brooks expected to complete the journey inside of fifteen hours. Ford can manufacture and sell the "flivver planes" for \$2,300, the United Press learned today.

The price was computed from Ford's experiments on small scale production and probably could be reduced considerably on large scale production, it was said.

Plane Is Brand New
Brooks' plane is a brand-new creation, far different from the "flivver" plane which Ford exhibited on his birthday year before last. Changes from that type of plane were suggested, it was learned, by Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, when he flew the old type "flivver" plane at the airport last summer.

The new type planes can do seventy-five miles an hour, though the normal cruising speed is sixty miles an hour. Mileage, it was said, is approximately thirty miles to the gallon of gasoline.

The plane is equipped with an engine which produces between thirty-six and forty horse power. The engine costs about \$800 and the rest of the plane, with gasoline tanks in the wings, about \$1,500.

Ford Keenly Interested
Ford has taken a personal interest in development of the planes. He is believed to have known, however, that the big problem to be solved before they can be sold on an extensive basis is teaching a large number of persons to fly and banishing the fears of the rest of the people that air travel is unsafe.

Brooks has been using the "flivver" plane to commute to work daily for several months. He has found it satisfactory, it was stated, and has so reported to Ford.

The millionaire industrialist was at the airport this morning to witness Brooks' departure and was described as intensely interested in the endurance flight.

Gets \$10, Fails to Return
When Mrs. T. Long, proprietor of a confectionery at 150 N. Illinois St., entrusted a 14-year-old newsboy, who had frequented her place, with a \$10 bill to get changed Monday, the boy went out of business. So did the bill, so far as Mrs. Long is concerned, she told police.

SHORTAGE CHARGED
Trustee Books Show \$8,295 Is Missing.

Report of an \$8,295.94 shortage in the accounts of John M. Brown, Union Township trustee, Porter County, was referred to Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom today by Chief Examiner Lawrence Orr of the State board of accounts.

Notation on the report stated that Brown had promised to make restitution.

Examiners Earl Coble and F. L. Crowe, who audited Brown's books, declared money was taken by making out false warrants, signing and cashing checks. A sample was a \$325 check to M. Coash & Son, which, it is alleged, was never received by the firm, the examiners said.

Audit, they said, showed \$2,992.45 of such transactions in 1926 and \$5,303.49 in 1927.

PLEADS FOR LOST SON
Debt That Caused Worry Has Been Paid, Says Father.

"Come home, Leland, your mother is ill from grief and the debt that worried you has been paid."

This message was broadcast today to Leland Dorsett, 15, of 1928 Lexington Ave., by his father.

The boy left home Sunday with another boy. They were last seen walking south on Michigan Rd. Leland was wearing a bright red sweater.

Police Questions Negro Woman
Mrs. Lola Brackenridge, Negro, 28, of 1433 Shepard St., was held for questioning by police today, after regaining consciousness at city hospital Monday. She had left her home Sunday night and was found by her father, Richard Garlin, in a dazed condition at 327 Toledo St. Monday. She had a cut in her leg and her money was gone.

Man Held at Dayton Also Admits Robbing Dempsey's Cafe.
DAYTON, Ohio, Jan. 24.—Richard J. Dalton, 30, sentenced to the workhouse on charges of vagrancy, confessed today, according to detectives, to a \$35,000 jewel theft in San Francisco and to robbing a Los Angeles restaurant owned by Jack Dempsey.

Dalton also said he was wanted in St. Joseph, Mo., on charges of manslaughter growing out of the death of a 14-year-old boy.

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W. H. FREEMAN, FORMER G. O. P. LEADER, DEAD

Ill Only Two Days; Held County Chairmanship in 1924.

William H. Freeman, 64, former works board member and Republican County chairman, died Monday afternoon at his home, 5159 Park Ave., after two days' illness of uremic poisoning.

Private funeral services will be held at the home Wednesday at 10 a. m. Burial will be in Crown Hill cemetery. Friends may call at the home from 2 to 5 p. m. and from 7 to 9 p. m. today.

Mr. Freeman was secretary of the State board of forestry during the administration of Winfield T. Durbin as Governor, and two years later served in the office of State auditor. He was a works board member under Samuel Lewis Shank's second administration as mayor and was county chairman in 1924.