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BANDIT LIVES MONTHS BY HOLDUPS AS PRISON HEAD SIGNS HIS PAROLE PAPERS

Leslie Homer, Violator of Clemency, Bares Guilt in Series of Robberies After Capture in Hotel Here.

CHIEF TRUSTEE VOUCHES FOR HIM

President of Reformatory Board Admits He Put O. K. on Prisoner Without Investigating Activities.

While Indianapolis and State police were making frequent trips to Lebanon, Ind., in their six-months' search for Leslie Homer, 36, who today confessed to nine burglaries and holdups in Indianapolis and Muncie, John H. Hoy, Lebanon cigar manufacturer, and president of the board of trustees of the Indiana State Reformatory, was receiving monthly visits from Homer and personally was signing Homer's parole reports, guaranteeing that Homer was employed regularly.

Examination of parole records at Indiana State Reformatory at Pendleton and statements of Hoy verified this today.

Hoy was appointed by Governor Ed Jackson Dec. 31, 1925.

Homer finally was captured by detectives at a downtown hotel here Monday. He was sought first on a charge of running from a crash of his car with a school bus of the Jewish Educational Association last January.

Abandons His Car

The driver of the school bus, Monroe Fisher, 941 Roach St., was injured in the crash. Homer, police charge, drove a few blocks from the accident and abandoned his car.

Police still hold it and a set of suspicious-looking tools they found in it.

Investigation today disclosed that police started looking for Homer immediately after the accident. They learned he was on parole from the reformatory, where he had been sentenced from ten to twenty years for burglaries in Indianapolis.

Police Watch Closely

Both city and State police from then on made frequent trips to Lebanon on tips that the fugitive was visiting his mother and other friends there.

Homer's confessions today disclosed that he went back to robbery April 13, although police suspect he was involved in earlier crimes.

Police have made every effort to get Homer to name two accomplices in the series of store hold-ups. At first he told detectives he would tell if given assurance that he would be returned to prison as a parole violator only.

Won't Squeal on Pals

Today, however, he said he would not squeal, even if sent to the electric chair.

The Robberies:

May 19, J. A. Newman grocery, 418 E. Morris St., \$80.

May 12, Kroger grocery, 501 Buchanan St., \$75.

April 13, Samuel Gelman grocery, 94 Virginia Ave., \$100.

July 11, Frank Roosener Pharmacy, 801 S. Delaware St., \$65.

May 22, Western Oil filling station, no. 100.

March 17, Kroger grocery, 717 E. Twenty-Fifth St., \$70.

July 3, Aelved Fowler drug store, 2334 E. Washington St., \$125.

Two months ago, Kroger grocery here mounted steadily today, with additional deaths reported at the Good Samaritan Hospital at Vincennes, Ind.

Guilt of Burglary

Homer pleaded guilty to first-degree burglary in Marion Criminal Court April 4, 1918, and was sentenced by Judge James A. Collins for ten to twenty years.

His petitions for clemency in February, 1925, and March, 1926, were refused.

Having served his minimum sentence, Homer finally was recommended for parole by trustees of the Indiana State Prison, where he had been transferred July 25, 1918. Governor Jackson signed his parole July 12, 1927.

Homer's mother, Mrs. Anna Homer, living with a brother near Lebanon, took advantage of a slight acquaintance with Hoy to plead for clemency. Her pleading was unavailing, but when Homer was paroled to his mother she joined her son in asking that Hoy "take care" of returning Homer's parole reports.

Claimed to Be Bus Driver

The first parole report, submitted Aug. 1, 1927, reported him driving a People's Motor Coach Company bus here. It was countersigned by his employer, William Maley.

From that time until they ceased last May, Homer personally carried his monthly report to Hoy in Lebanon. Homer had taken employment as salesman for an Indianapolis packing company, Hoy said he was.

"I didn't know Homer very well,"

Hoy admitted, "but I knew his mother. When he showed up every month with his report, I had no reason to question the truthfulness of his statements. There was nothing wrong about my signing the reports, but I never signed any for anyone else and from now on I don't intend to."

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Ex-Governor, Here 28 Years as Vote War Exile, Is Dead

W. S. Taylor, Who Fled to Indiana After Goebel Killing, Passes.

Death ended the exile here early today of W. S. Taylor, 74, who fled Kentucky in 1900 as a result of the assassination of William Goebel, his Democratic opponent for Governor.

Mr. Taylor died at 1:30 this morning at Methodist Hospital of heart disease and complications, following an operation Tuesday. He had spent twenty-eight years in Indiana because of the accusations against him and his political followers after the death of Goebel. Mr. Taylor was charged with complicity in the death of Goebel.

At the time of his death Mr. Taylor was general counsel of the Empire Life and Accident Insurance Company, 215 E. New York St. He lived at 2143 N. Delaware St. He was rated as a wealthy man.

Flees to Indiana

Although declared Governor of the State, Mr. Taylor fled the capital, Frankfort, in the night, in a buggy. He came to Indiana and successfully resisted numerous efforts to extradite him for trial, and as a witness in other trials that resulted from the slaying.

Mr. Taylor is survived by his wife, Mrs. Nora Taylor, and son, Charles Linden Taylor at the N. Delaware St. home; another son, Wendell Taylor, Los Angeles; four daughters, Mrs. Merrill Wilson, 1733 N. Meridian St.; Mrs. E. Leo Davidson, 1008 W. Thirty-Fourth St.; Mrs. Irvin Miller, 1309 W. Thirty-Second St., and Mrs. Lynn Bailey, Columbus, Ohio, and six grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the home at 2 p.m. Saturday. Friends may view the body there tonight and Friday. Burial will be at Crown Hill in the faintly lit lot beside the grave of his first wife, who died in 1901, a year after their taking residence here.

Bishop H. H. Fout of the United Brethren Church will officiate at the funeral services. Mr. Taylor was a Presbyterian, but in later years attended the United Brethren church. He belonged to neither lodges nor clubs of the city.

Story Is Thrilling One

The story of intrigue, of a bitter partisan fight for the nomination, and of the final struggle in the general election is one of the most sensational in American politics.

As a result of the killing, Caleb Woodard secretary of State, was tried three times, once sentenced to hang, and to life imprisonment. Three times the Supreme Court allowed a new trial, or freed him.

He loved his wife and children, he told police, but he could not stand to inflict suffering on them. Woolsey owed a \$9,000 mortgage on his residence and \$8,000 in other debts.

Police Chief B. M. Avery of Rosselle received a telephone call:

"Chief Avery, this is Dr. Arthur F. Woolsey, a reputable young dentist of good family and quiet habits, was in jail today, charged with the murder of his wife and two children, whom he shot to death because he wanted to save them the 'embarrassment' of impending bankruptcy."

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"Chief Avery, this is Dr. Arthur F. Woolsey, a reputable young dentist of good family and quiet habits, was in jail today, charged with the murder of his wife and two children."

Chief Avery hurried to the address. Woolsey was sitting on the veranda, smoking a cigar.

"How do you do, chief?" Woolsey said. "Step upstairs with me, please."

The body of Mrs. Woolsey, washed carefully and free of bloodstains, was on a bed.

"Now step in the next room," Woolsey asked. There were the bodies of the two boys, 8 and 4. Both had been shot in the head.

The dentist said he intended to commit suicide, but lost his nerve.

SEVEN DIE IN BLAST

Doubling of List Expected in Illinois Oil Tragedy.

By United Press

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ill., Aug. 2.—The death toll of the oil still explosion Wednesday at the plant of the Indian Refining Company here mounted steadily today, with additional deaths reported at the Good Samaritan Hospital at Vincennes, Ind.

There was no appeal from this board's appointment of election officials.

Break in Party

The methods employed by Goebel in the nominating convention resulted in a break in the party, and many Democrats scratched the ticket. Goebel's election boards declared him winner, but the State board, relic of the Democratic machine Goebel had smashed in gaining control of the party, declared Taylor, the Republican, to be the Governor.

Goebel appealed to the Supreme Court, was turned down, and appealed to the Legislature.

While this action was pending, Goebel was shot by a riflemen hidden in a building, on Jan. 30, 1900. He was sworn in as Governor a day or so later, and died Feb. 3 of that year. In the meantime, Mr. Taylor, because of threats of Goebel's followers, had fled to Indiana.

Mr. Taylor was a native of Morgantown, Ky. He had been attorney general before his party picked him as standard bearer for the election battle with Goebel.

NO FEAR OF 'TALKIES'

By United Press

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Aug. 2.—The talking movie never can affect the legitimate stage, Daniel Frohman, noted theatrical producer, said in an interview here.

"The 'Talkie' never can successfully reproduce the personality of the actor as it is brought out on the stage," he said.

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nounced open warfare, causing a hurried conference of those leaders on hand in an attempt to placate the little, hot-tempered gunman.

Al Capone has thrown all his resources and all his influence into the breach, hoping to prevent open deadly warfare. Al came here from Miami last week-end and met with his henchmen.

NEW GANG WAR THREAT MENACES PEACE AND PROFITS OF CHICAGO RACKETEERS

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—Hughes (Stubby) McGovern, 5 feet 4 inches tall, has declared war on the entire list of gang leaders in Chicago, including Spike O'Donnell, Al Capone, Ralph Sheldon, Spike Brown, Eddie Donovan and Danny Stanton.

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McGovern has been one of Sheldon's ranking lieutenants, but now the break has come.

GOODRICH TO FACE BATTLE IN VALPARAISO

Citizens Fight Effort to Get Strangle Hold on Phone Service.

ASK COMMISSION'S AID

Illinois Bell Better Fitted to Operate in District, Appeal Says.

Citizens of Valparaiso today are basing their hope on the public service commission to prevent the Winona Telephone Company and former Governor James F. Goodrich from getting what they fear will be a strangle hold on telephone service in that locality.

A petition to modify the commission order granting permission to the Northwestern Indiana Telephone Company to sell and the Crown Point Telephone Company and the Winona Telephone Company and the Valparaiso service under control of the Illinois Bell system has been filed with the commissioners.

It is signed by the civil city of Valparaiso, the city council, and Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce. It is backed by the citizens generally, who have expressed themselves as unable to understand why Goodrich entered the field and took the service away from the Illinois Bell holding company, which they believe would have bettered the service.

Want Illinois Bell Service

The petition points out that the Illinois Bell has control of the Northwestern stock and that "said company better is fitted and more efficiently can operate the Valparaiso and Routs exchanges of the Northwestern Indiana Telephone Company than the Winona Telephone Company, purchaser of said exchange."

Twice before the commission agreed that it was in the public interest to prevent the Goodrich organization from taking over this service.

An adverse ruling on the commission's decision was obtained by the former Governor in the Lake Circuit court. Judge E. Miles Norton, originally appointed to the bench by Governor Goodrich, but since twice elected, handed down the ruling favoring the Winona company and reversing the commission's ruling.

Present petition of the citizens sets out that such court appeals are unconstitutional and that Lake Circuit court was without jurisdiction.

The appeal was made possible under the 1927 statute, which was ruled unconstitutional by Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom, but nevertheless was signed by Governor Ed Jackson.

One report covered the actual flight and the other told of the hardships the six men endured on the ice floe off Foy Island. The latter told of how the men waited around the little red silk tent after the Italia crashed May 25.

Nobile also is said to be preparing another report which probably will be delivered to Sirnanni for may years.

Unity of operation always has marked the telephone service in Valparaiso, Chesterton, Hobart, Wheeler and Kouts, but this is broken up by the commission, acting under the decision laid down by the court.

New Trial Is Asked

Motion for new trial has been filed with the court by Attorney Bruce B. Loring, who filed the commission petition. He has asserted that if the judge rules against this motion, appeal will be taken to the Indiana Supreme Court. Appeal will be based on alleged unconstitutionalities of the 1927 act.

The Senator-elect has been ill at his summer home near here for several months. He was in health in February, 1919, while making the first attempt to cross the Atlantic in a heavier-than-air ship.

The stroke, it is understood, left him paralyzed on one side of his body.

Physicians said Mrs. Vare was prostrated from the shock of her husband's illness and had been placed under the care of a physician.

County boards were urged to meet next Tuesday to consider the State tax board reports and take action. Reports back to the State board must be made not later than Aug. 13.

SET AIR MAIL MARKS

Mileage Flown and Volume Records Fall.

By United Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Aug. 2.—United States Senator-elect William S. Vare of Pennsylvania suffered a stroke of apoplexy at Vinton, near here, today. His condition is said to be serious.

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DIES