



The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Rain tonight and tomorrow. Slowly rising temperature.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1946

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FINAL
HOME
PRICE FIVE CENTS

Fiend Is Sought As Murderer of Kidnapped Child

Police Discover Dismembered Parts of
Body in Cesspools; Death Due
To Asphyxiation.

By ROBERT T. LOUGHREN
United Press Staff Correspondent

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Police combed the neighborhood today for the trail of the fiendish "cesspool butcher" of 6-year-old Suzanne Degnan who was kidnapped from her bed-room.

The child's blond, curly head, her legs and torso were found last night in separate cesspools within a one-block radius of her parents' home in the North side's fashionable Edgewater Beach area.

Her chubby little arms were still missing.

The child apparently had never been taken from the neighborhood after she was lifted from her bed early yesterday, carried through a window and down a seven-rung ladder. The ladder, with one rung missing, was found nearby.

An examination of the butchered body showed today that she died of asphyxiation when choked by the man who stole her.

Dismembered After Strangling

The coroner's office reported that a post-mortem examination showed that the girl's body was dismembered after she was strangled.

The report said there was evidence that the six-year-old child had been the victim of a sex crime but there was no conclusive evidence that she had been raped.

The results of the examination were announced shortly after police discovered a blood-stained push cart in a basement near the girl's home.

Detectives said they found the cart in the apartment building in which Thomas Lundmark, a butcher, formerly was janitor. Lundmark and six others were being questioned by police were being given detector tests.

Seek Bloodstains

Police searched darkened corners of apartment house basements in the neighborhood for tell-tale bloodstains that might show where the body was dismembered.

More than one hundred police, aided by two-man squads enlisted from the Chicago department of sewers, hunted for the girl's missing arms, believed to have been hidden nearby.

Major Edward J. Kelly spent more than four hours today with the distraught parents, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Degnan, in their home. Mr. Degnan, 39, who discovered his daughter missing and found a ransom note demanding \$20,000, is a Chicago OPA official.

Kelly Issues Protection

Emerging from the Degnan home, Mr. Kelly issued this statement:

"I want to give assurance to the mothers of Chicago that police are carefully guarding all districts to prevent a recurrence of such a crime against Chicago's children. It was a terrible thing and must have been done by a maniac."

One suspect, a 17-year-old grocery clerk, was taken into custody; after neighbors reported he was "slightly demented" and might have had access to a cleaver or other sharp implement.

In one of several telephone calls to the Degnan home, where detectives had tapped wires, a man demanded the ransom and said he

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MERCHANTS BANK OFFICERS RENAMED

New Member Added to
Merchants Staff.

The Merchants National bank, during the annual stockholders' meeting at noon today, re-elected all officers and directors and added one new member to its staff.

R. E. Sweeney Jr., vice president of the Fountain Square State bank, was assistant cashier. Mr. Sweeney just recently returned from three and a half years of service in the Pacific with the navy. He participated in major engagements at Iwo and Okinawa.

While at Okinawa he was wounded and afterward spent two months in the naval hospital at Guam.

Re-elected officers are: J. P. Frenzel Jr., chairman; Otto N. Frenzel,

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ENVY IN U. S.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.)—Hungarian Minister Aladar Szegedy-Maszak has arrived here to take up his official duties. He is the first Hungarian diplomat in this country since the start of the war.

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Salaries received by Jan. 13th at Morris Plan, 110 E. Washington St., earn 1½% interest from Jan. 1st—Adv.

Career Ended



Dr. Herman G. Morgan

Dr. Morgan, 33 Years Health Officer, Dies

City health board secretary for the past 33 years, Dr. Herman Grover Morgan died early today at the Isolation hospital, his virtual home and office for the past two years. He was 60.

One of the nation's veteran public health authorities, he had held office longer than any other city or county official.

Services will be held at 11 a. m.

Friday at Flanner & Buchanan mortuary and at 1 p. m. at the Christian church in Brooklyn, Ind. Burial will be in Brooklyn, his birthplace.

Aware of End

Chronically ill for several months, he was on the job at the isolation hospital until Saturday afternoon when he was confined to bed. He was conscious almost up to the time of his death at 5:20 a. m.

Dr. Morgan was "very aware" that the end was near, according to Dr. Gerald Kempf, who attended him. Members of the family were at his bedside.

By Sunday Dr. Morgan had com-

(Continued on Page 2—Column 4)

PREDICTS HIKE IN STEEL PRICE

Truman Refuses Comment On Strike Effect.

By UNITED PRESS

President Truman predicted a small increase in the price of steel at the moment, as strikes threatened to idle more than 1,800,000 workers, among them 700,000 C. I. O. steelworkers.

Mr. Truman said that the price increase had been under discussion and that he expected some small increase. He declined to discuss the possibility that the increase might avert a strike in the steel industry scheduled for Jan. 14.

From other sources, however, had come hints that a settlement formula was in the making for the steel industry which might also provide the key to labor peace in the automobile, electrical, meatpacking and other major industries plagued with wage disputes.

The formula, it was said, would involve limited price increases which would absorb at least part of any wage increase granted under it.

In a general discussion of the explosive labor situation, President Truman reiterated hope that progress would pass, without major changes, the fact-finding labor legislation he has repeatedly asked.

Meanwhile, Western Union telegraphers in New York City walked out today, bringing the number of workers idled by strikes and shutdowns to 363,000.

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