

Trooper Accidentally Kills Upstate Chief Of Police

Revolver Shot Fatally Wounds 'Best Friend'

Coroner's Verdict Expected Today

Times State Service
HAMMOND, Ind., Jan. 31.—Coroner's verdict of accidental death expected to be returned today in the shooting of Police Chief Charles Wilmer Chapman of Munster, Ind., by State Trooper Stephen Ranich.

The 29-year-old police chief died en route to the hospital, after the trooper accidentally fired his revolver, striking the chief's head.

The pair, who were hunting companions, were in Chief Chapman's office in Munster, a suburb of Hammond, when the shooting occurred last night.

Trooper Ranich, 28, of East Chicago, signed out of service over his radio at 8:33 p. m. to check reports. He used Chief Chapman's office frequently and kept his records and equipment there.

Removes Revolver
Ten minutes later he was back on the air, sobbing out the report: "I've shot my best friend."

The trooper said he had gone into Chief Chapman's office and asked if he could borrow the chief's equipment to clean his pistol. He had participated in the regular target shooting at Dunes park state police post the day before.

Trooper Ranich had removed his battle jacket and revolver and holster, tossing the gun on the chief's desk. He was zipping open the cylinder to extract cartridges when it discharged.

The chief, who had been washing his hands at a basin across the room, was going to his desk to get his cleaning equipment for the trooper, when the gun fired.

The town board was meeting in a room immediately adjacent. Officials heard the shot and Chief Chapman's outcry, and rushed to the room to find the chief still alive and the trooper hysterical when they rushed in the room.

"An Accident"
The chief was a married man with two children. The trooper, a veteran of world war II, lives in East Chicago with his mother and brother, a member of the Hammond police force. His father also was a Hammond police officer.

State police officials said the tragedy was "an accident—pure and simple." Maj. Robert O'Neal, acting superintendent, said Trooper Ranich has "an outstanding service record," and that he is "one of the best troopers in the business."

A routine coroner's investigation was set today. As a formality Lt. Rex Risher, commandant of the Dunes Park post, asked town board officials who were present to file a report.

Lt. Risher said Trooper Ranich is off duty today, "prostrate" with grief over the tragedy.



ACCIDENTAL TRAGEDY—State Trooper Stephen Ranich startled state police radio men last night with his sobbed report: "I've shot my best friend."

2 Leavenworth Escapees Seized

City police and FBI agents last night recaptured two long term federal criminals who broke out of Leavenworth last week.

The escapees were identified as Dando Davis, 37, of Terre Haute, and Willard Winhoven, 37, of Compton, Cal., by Norman H. McCabe, agent in charge of the Indianapolis FBI office.

Agents closed in on the pair who were riding in a taxicab at English and Shelby sts. FBI men were aided by Patrolmen Patrick Moriarty and Kenneth Sanders.

Davis was serving a long sentence for bank robbery and Winhoven was doing 25 years for post office robbery.

Roads Mostly Clear Of Ice and Snow
Indiana roads which are not closed to traffic for repairs are generally clear of ice and snow except for a freezing rain on a 30-mile strip in the northern section of the state, the highway department reported today.

Closed because of construction are U. S. 12 in Michigan City; Ind. 17 north of Burr Oak; U. S. 24 east of Monticello; Ind. 32 east of Anderson; Ind. 39 north of La Porte; Ind. 44 a half-mile west of the Ohio line; Ind. 49 three miles north of Jct. 14; Ind. 108 from Willington to Warrinton; Ind. 124 west of Ind. 13 and Ind. 129 near Pleasant.

Navy Death Toll 88,842; Army 308,978

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—The toll of known dead for the navy, marine corps and coast guard was 88,842 from the beginning of the war to the first of this year, the navy reported today.

Latest war department figures showed 308,978 army dead as of last June 27.

Germ-Fighter Is Seen Aid To New Drug

Grisein Is 'Sister' To Streptomycin

(Copyright, 1947, by Science Service)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—A new germ-fighter has been discovered by Dr. Selman A. Waksman, famed Rutgers university and New Jersey agricultural experiment station researcher who discovered streptomycin. The germ-fighter is related to streptomycin.

Grisein is the name Dr. Waksman has given streptomycin's sister weapon against germs. The name comes from the last part of the name for the soil organism which yields both it and streptomycin, streptomyces griseus.

Grisein was discovered in a search for "bigger and better streptomycins," Dr. Waksman said.

The new antibiotic is no rival to streptomycin. By itself it shows no great promise as a weapon against germs.

Its value, Dr. Waksman believes, will come from combining it with streptomycin to eliminate resistance which germs develop to streptomycin.

Most Important Problem
This development of germ resistance to antibiotic drugs is the most important problem today in connection with the use of these modern remedies for infection, said Dr. Waksman.

Germ resistance to streptomycin may be even more important than resistance to penicillin. This, Dr. Waksman explained, is because streptomycin is used in chronic illnesses for which it must be given over a long period of time. Penicillin, on the other hand, is used for acute conditions from which the patient gets well quickly.

Develop Resistance
Streptomycin should, for example, give good results in undulant fever, but in practice it does not. This long drawn-out illness gives the germs a chance to develop resistance to the antibiotic. The same thing may occur in tuberculosis, for which streptomycin is now being tried.

Scientists need to learn how streptomycin, penicillin and other antibiotics act to overcome germ infection. Dr. Waksman urged the scientists to search for antibiotics to fight viruses, such as the cause of the common cold, influenza and infantile paralysis, and for others that might even be effective against cancer.

What, No Robins?
LEWES, Del., Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Eight consecutive days of unseasonable 70 degree temperatures caused dandelions to bloom on the Delaware Capes today—two months ahead of schedule. Tris, daffodils and jonquils were budding.



AWARDED MEDAL—Cmdr. Richard Nott Antrim, Peru, Ind., received the medal of honor from President Truman in a ceremony yesterday at the White House. Cmdr. Antrim was cited for fearless leadership and for his courage when, as a prisoner in the Netherlands East Indies, he stepped forward and offered to take the remainder of the punishment being given a fellow officer, already beaten into unconsciousness. His act saved the life of the officer.

Henry and Homer Top Polio Show

Extra Stone (Henry Oldrich) and Jackie Kelk (Homer) will headline the Infantile Paralysis Legion of Honor stage show and radio broadcast starting at 10 p. m. today on the stage of the English theater.

The two-hour program will present in addition an array of local radio talent and teen-age entertainers about town. Mr. Stone and Mr. Kelk will serve as M. C.'s for the Indianapolis teen-age entertainers.

The second half of the program, from 11 p. m. to midnight, will be broadcast over the four Indianapolis radio stations. Mr. Stone will be M. C. for the radio show.

The program will include Gov. Ralph Gates, Frank Parrish, Virginia Byrd and the Trolley Trio, Johnny Winn and the Four Stars, Gilbert Forbes and other local talent.

'Dahlia' Case Rurs Out of Suspects

Police Fear Killer May Strike Again

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Police checked all recent reports of rape and attempted attack today in search of a new lead in the torture-slaying of the "Black Dahlia."

They were convinced that 22-year-old Elizabeth Short was killed by one pickup too many. They feared that her savage killer might strike again.

One man accused of an attack following the "Black Dahlia" pattern had already been questioned and released. He was Donald Pomeroy, 20.

Mrs. Thelma Thompson, attractive 35-year-old waitress, said he picked her up in a bar, drove her to an isolated lovers' lane, then tried to tear her clothes off, threatening:

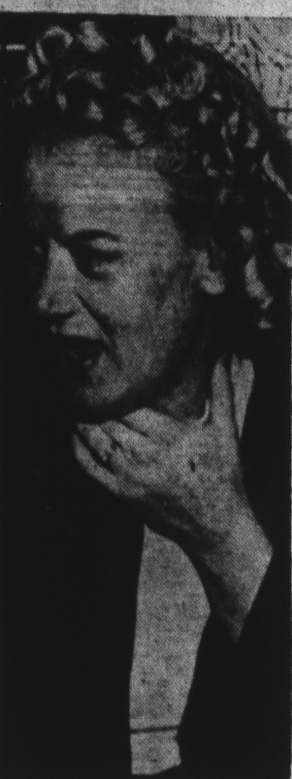
"I'll do you like I did the Black Dahlia."

Police Abandon Hope
"I must have been awful drunk," Pomeroy said. He was released after Mrs. Thompson decided not to sign a complaint.

After eliminating every known acquaintance of Miss Short as a suspect, police decided she must have been tortured, mutilated and murdered by a stranger. They knew she was not averse to pickups.

Police abandoned all hope of trying to reach the slayer through letters and appeals. Letters from the "Black Dahlia Avenger" were flooding police and newspaper desks, some from as far away as El Paso, Tex., and the Bronx.

One newspaper received half a



THREATENED—Thelma Thompson, Hollywood waitress, who told police she was taken to an isolated lovers' lane and threatened by a man who called himself the "Black Dahlia" slayer.

dozen in one mail delivery, one with postage due. All the letters were too obviously the work of pranksters to warrant fingerprinting.

Train Wreck Case Left Up to State

U. S. Prosecution Held 'Too Strong'

LOGANSPORT, Ind., Jan. 31 (U. P.).—Federal District Judge Luther M. Swygert said today the two boys who derailed a speeding Pennsylvania passenger train Monday night would be prosecuted by state authorities and not by the federal government.

Judge Swygert said the case would be handled by the state or Cass county authorities. He said any prosecution of Leslie Graves, 11, and Jack Sprinkle, 12, under the federal train wrecking act "would be too strong in view of the tender years of the subjects."

The two boys demonstrated for officers last night how they placed a bale of fencing wire on the tracks. They probably will be prosecuted as juveniles in a state court, authorities said.

6 Cars Derailed
Four persons died and 40 were injured as a result of the wreck. The engine of the Chicago-bound train struck the wire and swept it along the track until it snarled a switch. It threw the engine and six of the train's eight cars off the track.

During last night's re-enactment, the boys required 35-minutes to place two planks, three fence posts and the heavy bale of wire fencing across the tracks. Earlier, they had told investigators they decided to place the obstacles in the train's way "just to see what would happen."

They fled the scene and hid behind a house as the train approached then plunged off the track.

SHOP EARLY AT AYRES'
9:00 TO 5:25
TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY
CLOSED MONDAYS

Wonderful Casual Shoes...

Lighthearted and lively... designed to take

you through a gay, new Spring! In gabardine,

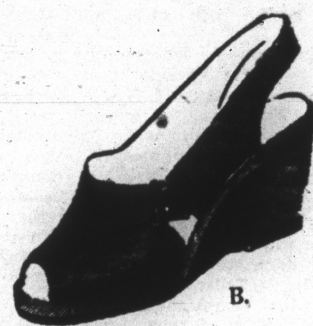
leather and suede, 4.95 to 9.95

Shoes, Second Floor

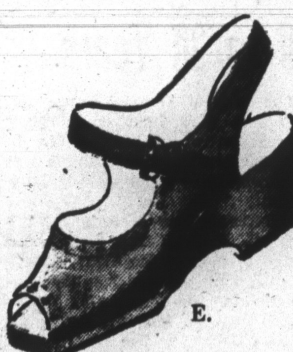
A. "Highlander" sandal. Black or red leather. Black suede, 8.95

B. Mercury "Friar." Blue, black or brown gabardine with leather trim, 6.95

C. Mercury "Fantasy." Blue, gray or wine suede. Black or brown leather, 9.95



B.



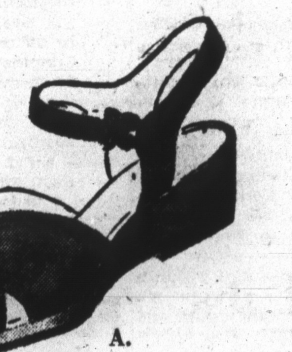
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C.



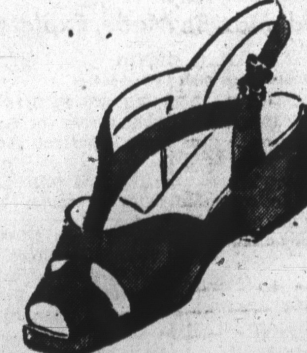
D.



A.



F.



D. "Cosino." Black, red or brown leather, 4.95

E. Town and Country "Sideshow." Black or brown leather, 7.95

F. Town and Country "Model T." Red, green or beige leather, 7.95

Clearance!

WOMEN'S AND MISSES'

WINTER COATS

All priced to clear immediately... worthwhile reductions have been taken. Subject to prior selling.

(30) UNTRIMMED COATS, were 39.95 to 89.95
now 22.90

(12) UNTRIMMED COATS, were 55.00 and 58.75
now 29.90

(10) TWEED COATS, were 89.95,
now 43.90

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