

What Happens To Boy Who Tried to Kill?

**Psychiatrists Say He Might Be Cured,
If State Had Proper Care Available**

By ROBERT BLOEM, Times Staff Writer

VINCENNES, Apr. 16—Indiana's mental health program this week inherited the tragic case of 18-year-old Kenneth Leon Pace.

Kenneth was committed Friday to the Evansville State Hospital for the Insane because he couldn't comprehend the gravity of pouring rat poison into his father's coffee.

Psychiatrists indicated that although he could never be made normally intelligent, he might be cured of the form of insanity which made him want to kill his father. His chances for freedom depend on the ability of a heavily overcrowded, underfinanced and under-staffed institutional setup to treat him.

Kenneth escaped prosecution on a charge of poisoning with intent to murder on testimony of two Vincennes doctors. Circuit Judge Ralph Seal ruled he did not have "comprehension sufficient to understand the charge filed against him nor to prepare and make a defense."

Typical Problems

Thus he escaped prison and gained a chance to return to a limited usefulness, unless Evansville Hospital authorities are unable to accept a potential murderer. In that case he would face an indefinite "sentence" to the Hospital for Insane Criminals at Michigan City, worst overcrowded of any state mental institution.

Kenneth's case is a fairly typical mental health problem. He had only a low grade mentality to start, did not learn to read or write. He did learn to drive a car and to drive a tractor, both privately.

He and his father, a disabled navy veteran of World War I, did not agree on when and how much he could drive the family car. So he asked a grocery store clerk if rat poison would kill people.

Saved From Death

Assured that it would, he bought a bottle. Two weeks later he emptied the bottle into a pot of coffee he knew his father would drink that evening. He figured out, according to his own statement, that only his father drank coffee after noon so both would harm nobody else.

The father, a three-year-old granddaughter, and two other persons who "sampled" the coffee, were saved from death by the fact that Kenneth didn't know about this type of poison. He administered such a huge dose, making the victim suddenly and violently ill, it acted as its own antidote.

Then Kenneth was sorry he had done it. He wanted to drink some of the coffee himself, as a form of self punishment.

"I just felt dizzy-headed," he explained duly in jail. "I feel dizzy-headed a lot of the time. My head hurts."

Hard Voices

Psychiatrists found he heard voices, had unfounded fears for his own safety. They believed he might try to kill again but recommended the Evansville institution as preferable to prison.

Kenneth didn't learn to walk until he was three, scarcely talked before he was six. Although he reached the sixth grade in school, he could not spell his middle name, Leon, to sign his own statement to the sheriff after the attempt to poison his father.

Discussing the boy's background, the father, Edward Pace, said his trouble might have been partly because his mother was ill when he was small, unable to care for him fully. A sister once tossed him over her shoulder, missed the catch and dropped him on his head. He suffered a badly broken thigh as a small child.

"Likes" Institutions

"Brittle bones," the father commented. "Rickets, I reckon."

Kenneth has had experience with state institutions, but he said he "liked it." He served a year at the state boys' school. It was not the family's first experience with "taking things," either—a sister served a term in Women's Prison for shoplifting and an older brother is now in the state reformatory for vehicle taking.

Now Kenneth is the state's problem.

Fugitive Gives Up For Theft in 1936

MINEOLA, N. Y., Apr. 16 (UPI)—Anson G. Purchase, 54, a former banker who absconded 13 years ago with \$8000, walked into the Nassau County police headquarters today and surrendered. He said his conscience bothered him.

Purchase said he had been operating a pawn shop in Kansas City, Kas. His wife and three children have been living in Bay-side, where Purchase was an executive with the Bay-side Federal Savings and Loan Association when he stole the funds.

WINTER'S BLESSING

WASHINGTON, Apr. 16 (UPI)—The severe winter in the West promises to "pay off" by providing good water supplies this summer for irrigating crops, the Agriculture Department reported tonight.

**FLOWERS
for All Occasions
Open All Day Sunday
CLAYPOOL
FLOWER SHOP
Rt. 5028 Claypool
Hotel LI. 0617**

Still Convinced



Delinquent Tax Notice Law Urged

Haggerty Asks Ban On 'Surprise' Sales

New legislation which would require county treasurers to notify owners by registered mail when taxes become delinquent on their property was proposed last night by Judson Haggerty, state representative from Marion County.

Such requirement would end the possibility of property being sold because of delinquent taxes without the owner's knowledge, Mr. Haggerty declared.

He said he would urge the plan for consideration by the next General Assembly. He suggests that a property owner be given a 90-day period of grace following notification by mail before property could be put up for tax sale.

The Marion County representative also proposed recodification of all existing tax laws, pointing out that the statutes now are so intricate as to make interpretation difficult.

Eskimos Find Mexican Weather Far Too Hot

LAREDO, Tex., Apr. 16 (UPI)—Customs officials here are used to strange transients but they rubbed their eyes when four Alaskan Eskimos crossed the border from Mexico.

The Eskimos, all ex-GIs, had been studying silversmith at Taxco, and were en route home to Mountain Village on the Yukon River.

They said Mexico was too hot for them, but added the tables would be turned this summer.

George Sipary, acting as spokesman, explained that four Mexican youths will come to Alaska next fall to learn ivory carving, an Eskimo specialty.

Coxey Celebrates 95th Birthday

Still Believes In Easy Money

MASILLON, O., Apr. 16 (UPI)—The leader of the famed "Coxey's Army" march on Washington in 1894 celebrated his 95th birthday yesterday, still convinced of his theory of "money at cost" would solve the economic problems of the United States and the world.

General Jacob E. Coxey

spent the day quietly at his home here with his 83-year-old wife, Henrietta.

Mr. Coxey told reporters who called at his home that after 79 years of crusading, he is even more convinced that all nations should print all the money they need and exchange it for goods.

"And as long as we ship goods to Europe, and not money itself, we will have a boom."

At five years short of the century mark, the "General" is still active. He has recovered completely from a fall last June which fractured his pelvis.

Tomorrow will mark another highlight in the career of Coxey, who still wears a high wing collar.

Mr. Coxey assembled a small group here and began the long trek to the nation's capital to propose that the government print money to pay for a public works program to employ the jobless in the depression of 1893.

By the time the "army" reached Washington on May 1, it numbered some 4000. The march went for naught, however, when Mr. Coxey was arrested for walking on the grass on the Capitol lawn, fined \$5 and sentenced to 20 days in jail. The "army" disbanded.

Weight-Lifting Record Claimed for XC-99

FT. WORTH, Tex., Apr. 16 (UPI)—Convair factory authorities today claimed an unofficial weight-lifting record for their XC-99, experimental transport version of the B-36 superbomber.

Since records first were kept there nine years ago.

'No Peeping Tom,' Declares Socialite

Shooting Follows 'Study of Architecture'

DARIEN, Conn., Apr. 16 (UPI)—Socialite James A. Baker, 27, seriously wounded after peering through a wealthy neighbor's bedroom window, today denied he was a "Peeping Tom," although a beautiful woman happened to be stretched out on a bed.

Mr. Baker said he was examining the interior architecture of the house, which had been remodeled from a barn, and that he had absolutely no interest in the architectural beauties of the woman.

He was taken to Norwalk hospital with abdomen and arm wounds inflicted last night by Pierre F. Berry, 37, investment broker. Mr. Berry shot Mr. Baker after Mr. Berry's stenographer-housekeeper, Dorothy Morrison, 33, had screamed that someone was looking at her through the window after she had tucked herself in for the night.

Mask Faces

Mr. Berry, a former Air Corps captain, and Miss Morrison, who has been employed at his home since Apr. 7, were charged with breach of the peace and assault under \$250 bond. They made a hasty exit from police headquarters squinting through small openings cut in large envelopes they used for masks to evade reporters and photographers.

Mr. Baker told police he had always been interested in architecture and strolled through the woods from his house last night to look over the new Berry place.

He said he peered through one of the windows and saw Mr. Berry at his desk. He moved to another window, not knowing it was Miss Morrison's, he said.

Police said Mr. Baker told them he turned away and started walking back home through the woods when Miss Morrison screamed. The screams attracted Mr. Berry, who said he ran to the porch and fired several shots into the air. When he saw a figure darting through the woods, he said, he fired after it with a 45-caliber pistol.

3 Teen-Agers Nabbed For Breaking Windows

Three teen-agers who broke nine windows in two business establishments last night were apprehended by police who answered a burglar alarm set off when one of the panes was shattered.

Ranging in age from 14 to 16, the boys were turned over to Juvenile Aid authorities. A fourth lad escaped, officers said.

Patrolmen reported the boys fired marbles from sling-shots into seven windows of the U. S. W. Co., 34 N. Noble St., touching off the alarm. Two windows were broken at the Eagle Machine Co., 635 E. Market St.

Like's Institutions

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For child health . . . Architect's sketch of new wing to be added to Riley Hospital.

A state-wide campaign for \$1 million or more will be sponsored by James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Association to be used for an expanding program of medical and surgical research at Riley Hospital.

Perry W. Lesh, association president who announced the campaign, disclosed that organization work was already under way in many counties of the state. Leadership in the campaign will be announced later.

The fund drive, the first con-



The Specialty Shop
is on the
THIRD FLOOR—
Doors Open
at 9:30 A.M.

SALE

Honestly—if you miss it—
you will have difficulty in
forgiving yourself!

There are just a few of this
and that and those—and
some of the others—but
totaling something like this—

262 TAILORED SUITS

210 COATS—(a few short coats)

412 DRESSES (wools and cottons
and rayons).

510 Pairs SHOES

For instance:—Among the SUITS—

—are some of Forstmann's
fine fabrics at

\$25

And there are major Sale Groups of SUITS at

49.95 and 39.95.

To clear away broken lots of high priced suits!
(At \$49.95 there are even some Glenhunts!)

The COATS—are, in many cases, almost gifts!

There are 30 ZIPPER LINED COATS—at just half—were

59.95—reduced to

29.98

There are 2 fabulously fine CASHMERE COATS that were originally

\$225—
at

\$125

There are major Sale Groups of COATS at

29.95—39.95—49.95

There are 30 SHORT COATS—at HALF PRICE

The DRESSES—There's a rack of WOOL DRESSES and

Part Wools—at Half Price—(about 100

Dresses)—The bulk of them are (what! at Buy!)—

29.95 Dresses—at

14.88

There are 312 SPRING DRESSES—Prints, Cotton Gabardines

in pastel shades—neckwear prints—Butcher linen (rayon)—

silk prints—rayon crepes—linen-like weaves. Quite a

few Junior Dresses.

\$11—\$13—\$15—\$17

and so on—up to \$39. . .

This is a grand opportunity to buy a summer full.

EXTRA! About 500 Pairs WOMEN'S SHOES . . .

Including such names as Pandora, Bally, Martineau, Lady Nettleton, Dress; walking and sports shoes—in suede, smooth leathers,