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The Indianapolis Times

FINAL
HOME

FORECAST: Mostly fair, warm through tomorrow. Widely scattered showers late today and tomorrow afternoon. Low tonight, 70.

60th YEAR—NUMBER 150

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1949

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

How Richard Got His Head Caught



"This is how I did it." Two-year-old Richard McDougall, son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. McDougall of 1539 52d St., demonstrates how he was imprisoned yesterday by the rungs in a footstool. He was liberated when policemen, called by his frantic mother, borrowed a saw from neighbors.

McGuire Lolls in Court As Doctors Call Him Sane

Tavern Owner's Slayer Alternately Playful and Disinterested; Told Psychiatrist Escape Hopes
ALTERNATING between lolling disinterested and rollicking playfulness, 22-year-old Thomas B. McGuire today heard two psychiatrists shatter his hopes of evading first-degree murder charges on an insanity plea.

Both Dr. Murray DeArmond and Dr. Louis T. Need, appointed by Judge Saul L. Rabb to examine McGuire after he entered an insanity plea, testified the Navy veteran was sane. Dr. Need said he believed McGuire had "full comprehension" of the crime with which he is charged—the July 8 shooting of Robert G. Brown in Mr. Brown's tavern in 2901 Clifton St.

TO EMPHASIZE his statement, Dr. Need testified that McGuire told him during one interview that he, McGuire, "wasn't too interested" in pleading insanity because he believed he would have a "better chance to escape from Michigan City than from an insane asylum."

McGuire lolled in a swivel chair. Alternately he rocked the chair playfully as he listened to testimony or disinterestedly turned his attention to the progress of a fly on the ceiling.

Several times he turned toward a group of friends and relatives seated in the spectator section. One time he shook his head and waved his arm to attract a friend's eye, then grimaced and winked at the man.

DEPUTY Prosecutor Edwin J. Ryan who questioned the psychiatrist, asked both if McGuire "feigned insanity or imbecility" in their presence. Both doctors replied he did not.

Dr. Need also testified that defendant told him he did not think he would go to the electric chair even if his insanity plea was overruled "because I committed it on the spur of the moment and not premeditated."

Members of McGuire's family were expected to testify later today in the hearing.

Coeds to Enforce Weekly Pin Money Polio Donations
BLOOMINGTON, Aug. 9 (UP)—A self-denial campaign to raise funds for the fight against infantile paralysis will be started here tomorrow in a voluntary move by the student body of Indiana University.

Acting on an idea conceived after an educational tour of Riley Hospital, a group of students launched the idea of contributing money spent for soft drinks, cigarettes and other luxuries for one day each week.

Tomorrow, campus spokesmen said, students will donate all money they would have spent for luxuries or non-necessities toward the fight against the dread disease.

COEDS wearing "polio police" armbands will reprimand any student on the campus found smoking, drinking soft drinks or otherwise spending money on nonessential things.

Times Index
Amusements... 8 National Aff. 12
Eddie Ash... 14 Needlework... 7
Bridge... 7 Othman... 11
Business... 13 Radio... 9
Comics... 19 Ruark... 11
Crossword... 20 Scherier... 12
Editorials... 12 Side Glances... 12
Food... 7 Society... 6
Foreign Aff. 12 Sports... 14, 15
Forum... 12 Teen Probe... 19
Hollywood... 6 Try It... 19
Inside Indpls. 11 Weather Map 13
Movies... 8 Earl Wilson... 20
My Day... 6 Women's... 7

Fire Routing 11 Tenants Blamed On 'Bed Smoker'

Spurned Lover Shoots Columbus Divorcee, Then Wounds Self

Furniture Dealer, 58, Puts Bullet in Chest; 40-Year-Old Victim in Critical Condition

COLUMBUS, Ind., Aug. 9—A 58-year-old spurned lover early today shot and critically wounded a 40-year-old divorcee, mother of five children, and later turned the gun on himself in an unsuccessful suicide attempt.

Mrs. Thelma Phillips was believed to be dying in County Hospital from two bullet wounds in the abdomen and another in the right arm.

Herbert Bennett, prominent Columbus furniture dealer, was in the same hospital less critically wounded from a bullet in the left chest which narrowly missed his heart.

The shooting occurred early today in the modest home of Mrs. Phillips on the East Side of the city. Police Capt. Clarence Arbuckle said Bennett apparently wrenched a screen door off its hook and shot the attractive divorcee when she refused to admit him to her home.

Seen by Woman's Son
Norman Phillips, 21-year-old son of the victim who called police, said Bennett ran from the house after shooting at his mother five times. The youth said his mother and Bennett had been "going together" since last June.

Capt. Arbuckle theorized that the divorcee was trying to "break off" with the furniture dealer. Bennett was found two miles from the city beside his automobile, with a 32-caliber pistol beneath his body, after a two-hour search by police following the shooting.

An empty beer can, still cold, was found nearby. Police said Bennett had been drinking. He was shot once through the chest, the bullet barely missing his heart. He was unable to talk upon reaching the hospital.

Gasps at Explanation
Bennett shot me, because I wouldn't let him in," Mrs. Phillips gasped as police arrived at her home. She lost consciousness shortly thereafter.

Norman Phillips told police he was awakened by the shots and his mother's screams. He said he ran into the front hall and found her lying on the floor in the doorway between her bedroom and the hall. She was bleeding copiously.

Young Phillips said he did not see Bennett leave the house. Capt. Arbuckle said the elder son and another boy, Donald, 12, told him Bennett had been paying attention to their mother since June. Police believed the divorcee was trying to force the furniture dealer's attentions and he was trying to force her to see him.

Worked in Factory
Mrs. Phillips, police said, had been divorced for a number of years and resided with her five children in the modest but respectable home. She was described as a "good provider" and worked in a local factory.

Police said Bennett, who had been married twice, also had been a Columbus resident for many years. He was described as a well known and moderately successful businessman. He is the father of a grown daughter.

DIES ON MERCY TRIP
CHICAGO, Aug. 9 (UP)—Louis Cohn, 65, prominent Chicago undertaker, collapsed and died of a heart attack at the county morgue today when he went there to claim a body.

Burglars Tie Porter to Bed And Strip Tavern's Shelves
Package Liquor Store Also Robbed, Combined Loot Estimated at \$1000

Gunsmen tied a tavern porter to his basement bed while they emptied store-room shelves and burglars hauled away most of the stock of a package liquor store in two early morning South Side liquor thefts today.

Police estimated the combined loots from the B & M Tavern, 840 S. Meridian St., and a package liquor store owned by Gus Reith at 341 Virginia Ave., would exceed \$1000.

The gunmen entered the basement bedroom of the South Side tavern at about 4:30 a. m. and a wakened 74-year-old James Johnson, tavern porter.

Warned Not to Yell
"Don't holler," Mr. Johnson said one man told him while another bound him to the bed.

The porter told police there was no light in his room and that he could not determine how many men were in the gang.

He said, however, that he could see a gun in one man's hand by the light of a nearby street lamp. The armed man stood guard over the porter while the others went upstairs into the tavern.

They took at least \$500 loot from shelves in the front part of the tavern and an unestimated amount from the store-room.

A safe was turned upside down but it was not entered. Mr. Johnson told police the gunmen left him bound to the bed and that he worked himself free.

Nichols Purdue, night bartender, said the tavern's burglar

Quote Vaughan 'Human Torch' Rescued As Peeved On Track Deal

Hunt's Diary Reveals General's Friends Given 'Brush Off'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (UP)—Maj. Gen. Harry H. Vaughan, White House military aide, got "dam sore" because three friends interested in Tanforan Race Track were given a "brush off" by the housing expediter in 1947, Senate investigators disclosed today.

The revelation of Gen. Vaughan's wrath came from the diary of James V. Hunt, Washington "management counselor" whose activities led to a Senate subcommittee investigation of the capital's "influence industry."

One of the three friends, the diary disclosed, was John F. Maragon, a hustling promoter who used to have entrée to the White House.

Excerpts From Diary
The subcommittee made public excerpts from Mr. Hunt's diary dealing with string-pulling here in 1947 to get a building permit for the race track at San Bruno, Cal.

It was a time of building material shortages and work at the race track had been stopped by a federal court order. The permit eventually came through, but four persons were jailed and fined for violating the injunction.

The subcommittee heard testimony by a housing agency lawyer that someone in the administration, the Democratic National Committee, or Congress hurriedly lined up a meeting in the office of former Housing Expediter Frank R. Creedon to see what could be done about the Tanforan permit.

Attended By Maragon
The meeting was attended by Mr. Maragon and two others identified as Tanforan's "new owners." Mr. Hunt's diary indicated they did not then get what they wanted.

An excerpt, dated Oct. 25, 1947, and headed "Tanforan racetrack" said Gen. Vaughan, while "talking to me about other subjects," remarked "with vehemence that 'your friend Creedon is a fine guy,' meaning by his tone, the opposite."

According to committee files, Mr. Maragon was accompanied to the meeting with members of Mr. Creedon's staff by Eugene Mori, president of Tanforan and the Garden City Track at Camden, N. J., and Samuel Orlando, Camden attorney.

Mr. Hunt's memorandum said Gen. Vaughan complained that after he arranged the meeting with Mr. Creedon, "personally by phone," the expediter had turned his callers over to a group which "had given these people a fine brush off."

Hoey Remains Mute
Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R., S. D.), a member of the subcommittee, demanded that Gen. Vaughan be called as a witness. "In the remote event that he doesn't ask to be heard."

President Truman has said it is perfectly all right with him if the subcommittee wants to call his military aide. But he told a news conference he was satisfied Gen. Vaughan was in no way connected with the capital's five per centers.

U. S. Seizes 16 From Polish Liner
NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (UP)—Immigration authorities, in a swift, unexplained move, seized 16 passengers of the Polish liner Batory today as she was about to sail for England and Poland.

The 14 who were taken into custody were said to have held Greek passports. One was handcuffed and forcibly removed from the vessel.

The Batory, on which Gerhart Eisler, Communist leader, fled the country as a stowaway, left without the seized passengers.

7 Injured in Panic of 400 Aboard N. Y. Subway Train
Explosion of Fuse Causes Smoke to Drift Through Cars; Passengers Flee to Platform

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (UP)—Seven persons were injured today when the main fuse blew out of an express train of the Eighth Avenue subway, jerking it to a sudden halt in the 42d St. (Times Square) Station.

The fuse blew out with an explosion, flash and smoke, momentarily panicked the more than 400 passengers. The train was thrown into darkness. Six persons were taken to St. Claire's Hospital.

The passengers sat in silence as smoke whiffed through the train. Then several women screamed.

The attendants quickly opened the doors and let the passengers out onto the station platform. Northbound service on the line and the arrival of the train.



Geneva Dillon... Awakened occupants of burning building.

Hospital attaches reported Mr. Brisen's condition critical. Flesh on his back and legs was reported burned to the bone and the back of his head was badly seared.

Heroine Tells Story
"I was awakened by Paul's screams and heavy pounding on the wall separating our apartments," Miss Tibbs said. "I heard him scream 'fire, fire, fire,' and grabbed a robe and rushed out the back door."

"When I reached his side of the building smoke was streaming from the hallway and I could see fire over his door. Just then there was a crash and Paul came stumbling out. His clothing and hair were afire. I helped him to the back steps."

"Paul muttered, 'I have been all this time trying to awaken you as I got him outside. "All was excitement behind us. I could hear Geneva Dillon pounding on doors and screaming for people to get up. She went to every door and pounded. The smoke and heat were blinding."

Started Waking People
Miss Dillon said she was awakened by a call from Miss Helen Ford, of Apartment 8, and saw that the building was full of smoke.

"I put on a robe and started waking people up," she said. "I went to every door and pounded and screamed until I was sure everyone was awake."

Claude Collins, of 1311 E. 51st St., lessor of the Saratoga Hotel and annex and operator of the Wintergarden Tavern in the building, expressed the opinion that the fire originated from a cigarette in Mr. Brisen's room.

"Paul must have been smoking and fell asleep," Mr. Collins said. "He had been known to take sedatives for sleep. This must have been how it happened."

Mr. Collins explained that Mr. Brisen had been employed by him as a bartender for the past two years, working from 9 a. m. until 4.

"He is a fine fellow," Mr. Collins said. "He came to Indianapolis from Columbus where he has relatives."

His mother is Mrs. Eva Brisen of Grammer, Ind.

Ran Through Halls
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Day, both 63, were among occupants aroused by Miss Dillon. Mrs. Day is housekeeper at the hotel and they occupied the apartment directly beneath Mr. Brisen's rooms. Mr.

(Continued on Page 3—Col. 2)

Campus Fashions
Corduroy is the featured fabric for campus wear, reports Louise Fletcher, Times Woman's Editor, in her report of today's Fashion show at Block's.

Miss Fletcher gives college students many other "tips" for that "best dressed" look on their campus. This fall, college girls model for the pictures that illustrate Miss Fletcher's report on fashions.

Turn to Page 3