

Youth Confesses Brutal Beating Of Housewife At Home

Admits He Has Urge to Hit Women

Was Under Bond In Another Case of Assault

Spinach in the cuff of his trousers led to the arrest last night of a 19-year-old youth who admitted a brutal attack on an Indianapolis housewife.

Richard A. O'Brien, currently under bond in another assault case, was to be arraigned today on a charge of assaulting and beating Mrs. Margaret Todd, 27, of 621 N. Grant Ave., last night as she emptied garbage outside her kitchen door.

"I have never done anything to anybody but hit them," police quoted the youth as saying after his arrest by a merchant policeman less than an hour after the incident.

While a dragnet of seven patrol cars and numerous foot patrolmen scoured the neighborhood a merchant policeman, Paul Franklin, was attracted by a man at Emerson Ave. and 10th St. with a quantity of spinach stuck in his pants cuff.

Identified by Victim
Arrested, O'Brien was taken to the scene and identified by the victim.

Mrs. Todd told police she was alone at the time of the assault and had stepped from her kitchen to empty some garbage into a can when she was struck from behind. She said the youth struck her brutally about the face, head and shoulders as she kicked and screamed.

She said O'Brien apparently was trying to enter the back door but she kept him from doing so by kicking and scratching. He fled down an alley.

Detectives said O'Brien admitted "an urge to hit women" and told them he spent considerable time peeping into windows and otherwise prowling.

"I don't know what happens to me," he was quoted as saying. "I have never done anything but hit people."

O'Brien was accused of beating a housewife on Drexel Ave. several months ago as she alighted from a bus. He has also been arrested in a robbery case and was once fined \$1 and costs for reckless driving.

Detectives were questioning him in connection with other unsolved assault cases.

DOUGLAS U. S. BOUND

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Dec. 2 (UP)—Ambassador and Mrs. Lewis Douglas left today for the United States aboard the Cunard White Star liner Queen Elizabeth.

STRAUSS SAYS:



MEET

Terri Lee

quote

"The Best Dressed Doll in America"

and of quote

AND MEET

MRS. R. HAAS

Terri Lee Doll Representative

Saturday

December 3rd

Mrs. Haas will be here to tell you all about Terri Lee—how she is sculptured from wonderful unbreakable Plastic—to explain how to shampoo her hair and restyle it—to show you Terri Lee's complete wardrobe—including the beribboned pajamas—the net formal. Girl Scout and Brownie uniforms, ice skating outfits, and many more—It's all very much worth a trip to the Sixth Floor—Tomorrow, Saturday, December 3rd!

(Doll Shown Above 12:35)

L. STRAUSS & CO.

TOYS SIXTH FLOOR

Our City of Pulchritude



Mrs. Doris Robertson, Eli Lilly Co. secretary, is another of The Times nominations to prove Indianapolis is the city of pretty office girls. A picture story in next Sunday's PARADE Magazine heralds Hartford, Conn., as the city of "prettiest" office girls. PARADE comes with your Sunday Times.

Local Desperado Escapes From Jail

Saws Way Out Of Danville Cell

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breakfast, but he was gone when I got there. We would have been on the road to Michigan City now if he hadn't 'down the coop.'"

Travers was granted a change of venue from Marion County after awaiting trial in the Marion County jail for more than 11 months. His trial started Nov. 22 before Judge Horace W. Hanna in Hendricks Circuit Court.

He was convicted by a jury yesterday at 3:30 p. m. and sentenced to 12 years.

"He was sullen, mean and nasty in the courtroom," an officer said. "He looked like a desperate man when he walked from the courtroom after hearing sentence."

Sheriff Bayless said he planned to move him immediately to the state prison. He added, however, that he had believed it was impossible for Travers to escape from his isolated cell.

The sheriff could not explain how Travers managed to smuggle a hack saw into his cell. He said he was under constant guard, even in the courtroom.

Can't Explain Saws

Travers was a key figure about a year ago in the parole scandal that stirred Indiana politics. Two prison guards were fired and a subsequent investigation revealed charges of parole bribery, a forbidden money traffic within prison walls.

Travers, while absent at the time, was believed to be one of the few men who knew the inside story.

In the Marion County Jail prior to being removed to Hendricks County on a change of venue, Travers became known as "the forgotten man."

Arrested on Nov. 26, 1948, he was charged with second-degree burglary and auto banditry. He waived arraignment and pleaded not guilty on Feb. 11, 1949. He went back to the Marion County Jail in default of a \$10,000 bond.

He remained in the jail until Sept. 27 of this year when he was removed to Hendricks County. He was arraigned for trial in Hendricks Circuit Court on Nov. 2 and convicted yesterday.

Police of several states were advised to be on the lookout for Travers today as Indiana state police spread a dragnet over all highways.

It was feared, however, that the fugitive had put many miles between himself and the Hendricks County jail before the break was discovered.

A. & P. Refuses to Appear At Coffee Price Probe

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (UP)—Sen. Guy M. Gillette (D. Ia.), who today the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. has "refused" to appear Monday before a congressional hearing into coffee prices.

Sen. Gillette said he was "shocked" when he received a telegram last night from a "Mr. Bofinger" of A. & P. "refusing to appear... as requested."

Sen. Gillette is chairman of a Senate Agriculture Subcommittee which will open the hearing into coffee prices Monday.

Police Skeptical Of Murder Tip

Messamore 'Linked' To Triple Slaying

Indiana state police waited skeptically today for further word from a phone caller who said he had a hot tip on the disappearance of a family of three nearly a year ago.

Lt. Robert H. Shields said a man called from Chicago and identified himself as a former cellmate of William D. Messamore, English, Ind., who is serving a 23-year term in the federal prison for a Kentucky bank holdup.

Lt. Shields said the caller informed him that Messamore confided to him the slaying of Thomas Vandiver, his wife and his stepdaughter.

Thrown Into River

Police said the caller told Lt. Shields that after the slaying the bodies were thrown into the Ohio River. But police believed if that were true, the bodies would have been found.

The caller told Lt. Shields he was coming here today and would contact state police. But they doubted he would.

The Vandiver family disappeared while living with Messamore after their own home burned. Messamore often was questioned about their disappearance but said he knew nothing about it.

Held Prisoner in Hospital, Patient Charges Kills Wife, Girl In Drunken Rage

(Continued From Page One)

then they'd release him if I came out and paid the \$35." Mr. Skinner said he had told the hospital that Mr. Hawkins was a reliable worker and that he, the employer, would see that he paid the bill after he returned to work.

"I told them he couldn't pay it as long as they kept him there running up a bigger bill," he said. "All the woman would say was that he had signed an agreement to pay on discharge and that he would have to do it."

The same business office worker refused to discuss the Hawkins case with Mrs. Bea Pribble, 19 N. Oriental St., today. Mrs. Pribble, sister of Mr. Hawkins' landlady, went to the business office to inquire about his release.

"If you don't want to pay the bill yourself it's none of your concern," the business office worker told her. "It's between the patient and the hospital."

Later the business office worker declared that Mr. Hawkins made \$71 a week and that he "ought to have enough money to take care of the bill."

Councilman Launches Rent Decontrol Move

Donald B. Jameson, Republican city councilman, today submitted to the city clerk a resolution which will pave the way for public hearings on decontrol of local rents.

Mr. Jameson plans to have the resolution presented to the council Monday night.

If the resolution is presented, public hearings cannot be held in less than 10 days after its advertisement by the city clerk. The date will be set by the council.



Roy Hawkins... laid up in hospital and the hospital.

Dr. Charles Myers, superintendent of General, said he was starting an immediate investigation. He said it was in keeping with the law that a patient not classified as charity be asked to make some arrangement to pay when he is admitted.

"However, we can't hold him until he pays," Dr. Myers said. He said the doctor, a private physician, was "in the wrong" if he had refused to sign the release for financial reasons. He also said the business office had erred in the case.

He said Mr. Hawkins would be released immediately and be allowed to make arrangements to settle the bill.

The "prisoner-patient" said he'd be glad to pay the bill and commented: "I've lived here for 27 years paying taxes and this is the first time I've ever used this hospital. I'll be glad to get out."

Mechanic Sought; Son, 9, Wounded

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 2 (UP)—Pale and trembling, 9-year-old Bonnie Faye Bean today told authorities how her 50-year-old father, in a fit of drunken rage, shot down her mother, sister and twin brother last night.

The little girl was so bewildered and shaken that she scarcely realized that the rifle blasts had killed her mother, 23-year-old Mrs. Fannie Bean, and sister, 11-year-old Doris Jean.

Bonnie Faye's twin, Donald Ray, was sent to a hospital with a bullet wound in the abdomen and his condition was critical.

While Sheriff Jimmy Thompson patiently learned the story of a terrible five minutes from the little girl, his deputies were searching for the father, W. F. Dean, a mechanic.

Dean was last seen as he walked away from the house after the massacre, muttering, "I'm going to kill myself."

Bonnie Faye said she and her 7-year-old sister Thelma saw the shooting.

"Daddy and mother were arguing," Bonnie Faye told the sheriff. "He shot mother first. Then Jean started screaming, so he shot her too."

"Donald was standing behind daddy. I don't think daddy meant to shoot Donald."

WHAS to Broadcast Indiana Central Tilt
Radio station WHAS of Louisville will broadcast the Indiana Central-University of Kentucky basketball game tomorrow beginning at 8 p. m. (ET).

Coach Angus Nicholson and his 10 squad left here today for a two-game invasion of Kentucky, meeting Eastern Kentucky tonight in Richmond, Ky. and University of Kentucky tomorrow night in Lexington.

STRAUSS SAYS:

STORE HOURS TOMORROW, SATURDAY, 9 TILL 6



THE FITZHUGH—THAT'S THE SPORTS SHIRT THAT REALLY FITS YOU! IT COMES IN COLLAR SIZES AND SLEEVE LENGTHS!

The FITZHUGH is the celebrated Donegal Shirt—that's equally at home as a Sports Shirt or a business shirt with a necktie—it's roomy—it's comfortable—it's WASHABLE—it FITS YOU (collar and sleeve lengths)—It's a preferred buy! And it's a preference men enjoy exercising—The announcement that "the Fitzhughs are in!"—is enough to bring a great gathering of men around the sportswear cases.

They're here now!—in TWO great fabrics—with added color appeal for 1950

—They are going out in the possession of comfort-minded

(and for gifts) men in two's and Three's and mores!

FIRST FLOOR.

RAYON TECA CLOTH—WASHABLE—3.95

WASHABLE RAYON GABARDINE—4.95

TECA is a light weight rayon fabric (but substantial)—it has something of the body of wool—but it's WASHABLE—doesn't scratch! And the FITZHUGH in Teca is a value to make you congratulate yourself!

3.95 First Floor

COLORS

Navy Dark Green
Maue Tan
Royal Blue Brown

4.95 First Floor

COLORS

Green Cinnamon
Maroon Rust

MAIL AND PHONE ORDERS (LI. 1561) FILLED

Be Sure to give COLLAR SIZE (14 to 17½) and SLEEVE LENGTHS (32 to 35)

—and give first and second color choice.

L. STRAUSS & COMPANY, INC., THE MAN'S STORE

State Fair Board Wants Price Cuts

A cheaper State Fair for Indiana is the aim of the re-elected State Fair Board.

Carl Tyner, secretary of the board, said today members were agreed that an effort should be made to have "some nickel rides and candy."

The Fair Board returned from Chicago yesterday with glowing reports of the International Livestock Exposition and the part Indiana farmers played in winning many prizes.

Lt. Gov. John A. Watkins, who attended the Chicago exposition with the Fair Board, said they received many ideas from the show which may be included in next year's Indiana State Fair.

A whole new program for the 1950 fair will be formulated at a board meeting Jan. 4.

Presents Doll Exhibit At Flanner House

Mrs. Mildred Davis will present a doll exhibit and lecture from 7 to 9 p. m. today in the Morgan Health Center at Flanner House.

The show is open to the public. It is sponsored by the Progressive Mother's Club of Indianapolis.

STRAUSS SAYS:



2.98 for the Knit Suit—as pictured

KNICE KNITS FOR CHRISTMAS

This knit suit is something the "heir" likes to wear because of the easy comfort in the natural cut of the suit—they're not too narrow in the shoulders! and Mothers like them—because they're WASHABLE!

Shown above—Apolda knit suit—straight cut pants—elastic back waist band—suspenders crossed and stitched in back—Novelty knit shirt—long sleeves—Comes in Cocoa, Bittersweet and Blue—Toddler sizes 1-2-3

2.98

L. STRAUSS & CO.

BOYS' SHOP SIXTH FLOOR