

Tenant's Quick Action, Bravery Save 16 in Apartment House Fire

Spreads Alarm Throughout Building Before Turning to Rescue of Own Children

Quick thinking and bravery on the part of one tenant today was credited with saving 16 persons from injury or death in an Indianapolis apartment fire late last night.

Carroll Boffing, 35, was being lauded by firemen for his action in arousing tenants at the Avalon Apartments, 244-248 E. 10th St., when he was awakened by smoke and heard fire crackling through the walls of the building.

Mr. Boffing ran through the **Swift Kick Brings Additional Charge** building spreading the alarm before carrying his two smallest children, Darleen, 3, and Carroll Jr., 1 1/2, out the front door with them.

George McGee, 58, of 1061 N. son, Scotty, 6, he found himself cut off by fire and was forced with his wife, Lilly, who said he hit her to smash a rear door with his fist to rescue the boy.

Occupants of the second floor apartments were cut off from the steps and one man, Robert Bailey, dropped his 5-year-old son, James, from the second-floor window into Mr. Boffing's arms.

With the arrival of fire apparatus, ladders were put up and all occupants, including a 73-year-old couple and their pet dog, were rescued.

Others taken from the building included Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taylor; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Abney; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Shelly; Claude McCreary; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cannon and Mrs. Virginia Bonewitz and son, Marshall.

Police recalled the apartment was the scene of a tragedy 15 years ago when a furnace boiler exploded. The janitor was killed and one wall of the building blown out.

George Jennings, 1010 N. Alabama St., owner of the building, blamed defective wiring in the basement. He said the damage would be in excess of \$4000.

Boy, 13, Admits Robbing Southwest Side Homes

A 13-year-old boy arrested after breaking into the home of Mrs. Lucille Cox, 830 River Ave., has admitted burglaries of nearly a dozen southwest Indianapolis residences.

Police said the boy had cut a rear screen door of the Cox residence and was ransacking dresser drawers when discovered yesterday afternoon.

Loot was small in most cases, including into the store by residents. The boy told police he would go upstairs apartment who called knock at front doors. If there police, the looter escaped, how was no answer, he would go to ever, before police arrived, the rear and enter by breaking a window. He was turned over to juvenile authorities.

Masked, Armed Bandit Takes \$20 in Gas Station

A masked, armed bandit robbed a service station attendant of approximately \$20 last night.

Robert Batty, 5344 Winthrop Ave., night attendant at the Wake-Up Station, 810 W. Washington St., told police the bandit entered the place and demanded "all your money" while a second man waited outside.

Screams of Girl, 17, Rout Molester

A 17-year-old South Side girl was struck in the face last night by a man who accosted her as she returned from a movie. He fled when she screamed.

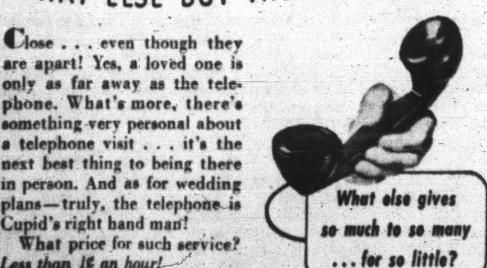
Officers said another man also was routed by the screams of a woman last night when he attempted to grab her near her home on Finley Ave.

WHAT'S

CUPID'S BEST HELPER?



WHAT ELSE BUT THE TELEPHONE!



Indiana Bell Telephone Company

Truman to Delay Naming AEC Chief

Fills Vacancy On Commission

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Reporter

KEY WEST, Fla., Mar. 23—

President Truman will not name a new chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission until after his return to Washington next month, sources at the Winter White House said today.

This news followed his selection

yesterday of Thomas E. Murray, New York City industrial engineer and business executive, to succeed David E. Lilienthal as an AEC member.

Mr. Murray, however, definitely will not succeed to the AEC chairmanship which Mr. Lilienthal

had held. The selection of a chairman was expected when the President nominates a successor to AEC Commissioner Lewis Strauss whose resignation becomes effective April 15. Nominations for commission membership are subject to Senate confirmation, but designation of a chairman is a presidential prerogative.

Counsel to Probe Surprise Witnesses'

(Continued From Page One)

tain South Shore Inn records for the defense with both a state and defense lawyer accompanying them. Judge Long originally ruled that the hearing would begin at the end of court today but later called off today's session after defense attorneys said the time granted was not sufficient.

The trial was interrupted yes-

terday when another violent out-

burst by Watts caused an early recess.

The latter outburst occurred during cross-examination of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Sadie Hardiman, 2340 Martindale Ave. Watts twice had to be wrestled back into his chair by his lawyers and guards and finally ad-

monished to "stay there" by Judge Long.

On direct examination Mrs. Hardiman said her son-in-law was a church-going, choir-singing man who spent his time at home with his wife and baby.

But on cross-examination Bartholomew County Prosecutor William Liebner asked if it wasn't true she had told officers at the time of Watts' arrest that "It was a wonder he hadn't killed his wife and baby" and that the family was afraid to let him hold his baby because he "pinched and pulled his hair."

Watts Screams.

Before she could answer, Watts burst into angry screams and had to be subdued. She later denied saying this and numerous other statements which the state read to her.

Watts' child, now 2 1/2 years old, was sitting on the lap of Mrs. Watts beside the defendant when the outburst occurred. Mrs. Watts, who has filed suit for divorce, testified yesterday Watts was at home several times Nov. 12, 1947, the day of the slaying.

She also said she had not seen a jacket with her husband's name on it for several months before his arrest. The jacket was found in the home of Mrs. Harriett Stout, who broke free and fled from the man who tried to attack her the morning of Nov. 12.

Saw No Scratches.

Another major defense witness yesterday was former state policeman William Waggoner who said he saw no scratches on Watts' body when he fingerprinted him late the night of the murder.

Earlier former deputy sheriff Harry Foxworth, who examined Watts on admittance to Marion County jail, testified he found Watts' body covered with scratches and tooth impressions on his hand. These marks allegedly were received when Mrs. Stout bit Watts as he broke free and broke through a screened porch to escape.

Mr. Waggoner left the state police department in December, after he was relieved of directorship of the identification division.

Jury Foreman Slips On 'Guilty' Verdict

MILWAUKEE, Mar. 23 (UPI)—The jury in a drunk driving case filed into the box and the foreman read a verdict of "not guilty."

Uproar broke out among the jurors and the judge ordered a poll. It showed that all had voted "guilty."

After the jury had retired to its room and balloted again yesterday the red-faced foreman explained that he must have slipped the wrong form in the verdict envelope.

SETS OFFICE HOURS

Information service department of Indianapolis Railways will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays beginning this week. Officials of the transit firm said today.

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'Cinderella' Forgets Fun to Help Family

Keeps Home Running When Illness Strikes

By ART WRIGHT

A daughter who gives up her own pleasures to help her mother is Indianapolis' latest candidate for Cinderella honors.

She is Helen Dolores Halloran, 15, of 940 Concord St., a sophomore at Sacred Heart High School.

Her mother, Mrs. Thomas Halloran, wrote this nominating letter to The Times.

"This is a good way to thank my darling daughter. She was mother to her brothers and sisters when the last four children were born. When I came home from the hospital, everything was running smoothly. I know it was awfully hard for her to turn down invitations to go swimming, skating or play tennis. She didn't say a word, even though a new pair of skates hung in the attic . . . and now they're too small."

"The baby and two other sisters had pneumonia. With her help they got over it. She also got sick but stayed on her feet when I came down with arthritis in my hips and legs."

"The past two weeks she has been hurrying home from school to get supper for the family and to do the hundreds of things that seven sick children want because they have the whooping cough. Still in the face of that she laughs."

"\$300 First Prize

You can name your favorite Cinderella, too, by writing a letter to The Times. If the judges select her as the outstanding Cinderella, she will receive \$300. Second place will get \$100 and third place will receive \$50. The person naming the first place Cinderella will receive \$50.

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