

# Ex-Chicago Pitcher Slain In Mexico Linked To Red Cell

## Policeman Tells Victim's Last Words

EL MANTE, Mexico, Jan. 3 (UP)—The Mexican police corporal who killed Herman Bithorn said yesterday that the former big league pitcher gasped "I am a member of a Communist cell on an important mission" as he lay dying with the policeman's bullet in his stomach.

The policeman, Ambrosio Castillo Cano, said he was forced to kill Bithorn to "prevent my own death at the hands of an apparent lunatic." Witnesses to the shooting vouched for the policeman's story.

District Attorney Jesus Govea said police arrested Bithorn here when they found him trying to sell a 1947 Buick for \$350 (U. S.) without proper documents.

The former Chicago Cub's pitcher carried no identification card, not even the usual tourist card required for entry into the country, Mr. Govea said. He had no papers for the car and there were no license plates on it.

### En Route to See Mother

Relatives of the big right-handed hurler said he was driving from Chicago to Mexico City to see his mother and sister. They could not explain why he should attempt to sell the car at El Mante, a small cotton center of 5000 population on the Pan American highway nearly 300 miles north of the capital.

"It is very mysterious," Commandant of Police, Fidel Garza said. "He had \$2000 in American currency in his pocket. He had been selling the car because he was out of money. Why was the car without license plates? Why did he have no papers? And what was the Communist connection?"

Police said Bithorn was shot last Saturday afternoon when he was driving the Buick. He was driving the car from Chicago to Mexico City where the former National League star had promised he would produce papers for the car.

### 'Hit Me in Face'

"I was afraid he was going to kill me," said Cpl. Castillo. "Without warning or provocation, he suddenly struck me in the face with his suitcase and started to leap upon me as I lay in the street. I pulled my automatic but he ignored it and I was forced to shoot just before he hurled himself at me."

The shooting took place on the street in front of the El Mante bus station, half a block from the main plaza. A number of people saw the incident.

"I didn't intend to kill him," Mr. Castillo said. "I fired low in an effort to disable him with a leg wound. But he crouched to spring at me just as I fired and the bullet struck higher than I expected—in the stomach."



ARMY BOUND?—Mrs. Joe Willie Riley assumes a military pose as she displays her draft notice.

### Notice Blamed on Culprit—

## Draft Calls Mother, 50; Eager to Serve, She Says

CHICAGO, Jan. 3 (UP)—Joe Willie Riley, who received a draft induction notice, said yesterday she'd be glad to serve if she wasn't a Gold Star mother.

But Selective Service officials said they had no intention of inducting her and that she could ignore the notice.

It seems that someone registered under Mrs. Riley's name and the government is trying to catch the culprit.

Mrs. Riley reported that she received a notice two days before Christmas ordering her to report for induction Jan. 9.

She would be glad to go, she said, but "I'm 50 and don't know whether I'm strong enough to be a soldier."

She lost a son, S/Sgt. William D. Riley, in World War II and has another son, Robert S. Riley, who is a lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol.

Mrs. Riley said she began receiving Selective Service correspondence a year ago and quickly notified her draft board that she was a mother and a "slight mistake" had been made.

A draft spokesman said Mrs. Riley told them that once her mailbox had been rifled and a check stolen and cashed. From this draft officials deduced that the thief then used her name to register for the draft.

The spokesman said it was arranged to continue sending notices to Mrs. Riley so that she could send them back with the notation that she was the only one of that name at her address. This was for the purpose of preparing a file.

## How'd Your Skates Work This A. M.?

You could have skated over most of Indiana today.

A sheet of ice left by freezing rain and sleet covered the state from Lake Michigan almost to the Ohio River. This afternoon the ice began to wear off some main highways, including U. S. 40.

In southern Indiana, the State Highway Commission reported roads generally clear south of a line through Spencer, Bloomington and Columbus. In the northern part of the state, U. S. 40 and U. S. 41 were in fair shape. In between roads were icy the commission reported.

At least two highway deaths were blamed on the weather. And six persons were hurt in a head-on crash on U. S. 40 west of Indianapolis.

The dead:

Sgt. John R. Vrabie, 27, Attentive Air Force Base, whose parents live in Clinton and whose Indianapolis address was 1138 N. Illinois St.

Mrs. Bernice Rex, 52, West Ligonier.

She died in a Wolflake hospital after her car skidded across icy U. S. 33 and smashed into a truck late yesterday.

Sgt. Vrabie was killed early today when his car skidded into the Blue River bridge on U. S. 31 near Edinburg and turned over three times.

### Slides on Ice

West of Indianapolis early today, a car slid on the ice across U. S. 40 in the 3900 block of W. Washington St. It crashed head-on into another car.

James Crittenden, 43, Cleveland, drove the car which skidded. Riding with him were Percy Williams, 25, Atlanta; Roger Gaines, 33, Cleveland; and Julius Holtzclaw, 25, Cleveland. All were in fair condition in General Hospital.

The other car was driven by Earl Cook, 23, of 1238 Glen Arm Rd. He and Arno Jellison, 6149 Mecca St., were released after treatment at Methodist Hospital.

Most drivers were careful. State police and deputy sheriffs here said they had no reports of cars ditched or stalled by icy pavements.

But state police early today were getting 300 to 400 calls an hour asking about road conditions.

A Greyhound bus dispatcher said gentle winds dried the rain on many main roads, but buses were delayed by icy streets in the towns. He said the longest delay caused by the ice was half an hour.

Work Through Night

Indianapolis street and transit company crews worked through the night to sand the streets. Indianapolis Railways said rush-hour service was close to normal. Some delays were caused by autos having trouble starting after stopping for traffic lights.

Ice was not thick enough on telephone or electric wires to give trouble, the utility companies reported.

The Indianapolis area was the only place in the state where new snow fell. It stopped at 1 a. m. The low here was 19.

No more freezing rain was expected by the weatherman, but he said it would stay cold tonight and would be no warmer than 32 degrees tomorrow.

The Indianapolis area was the only place in the state where new snow fell. It stopped at 1 a. m. The low here was 19.

No more freezing rain was expected by the weatherman, but he said it would stay cold tonight and would be no warmer than 32 degrees tomorrow.

## Editor Named Ridgway Aide

TOKYO, Jan. 3 (UP)—An American newspaper editor will replace an army officer as chief public information adviser to Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, it was announced today.

Burrows Matthews, editor of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Courier-Express, is expected to arrive in Tokyo this week-end to take over the advisory job formerly held by Brig. Gen. Frank A. Allen, but without the latter's additional administrative duties.

Gen. Allen became involved in several disputes with the press last summer and since has remained mostly in the background. He closed his office here last Monday.

Mr. Burrows will function as a personal civilian adviser to the supreme United Nations commander. He was on the public relations staff at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in Europe during World War II.

## Bullet in Brain Finally Is Fatal

A 65-YEAR-OLD man who clung to life for 60 hours with a bullet through his brain died last night at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Fred Johannes, 24 Orange St., was taken to the hospital Monday morning with one bullet wound in the head and another 32-caliber slug lodged in his body, just below the chest. He was found in his home with a revolver at his side.

Hospital officials reported the one bullet entered his right temple, penetrated the brain and emerged behind his left ear. He remained unconscious until he died at 10:15 p. m. last night.

Police said Mr. Johannes, a Public School 22 custodian, had been in ill health.

## New Castle Lawyer Takes Post With PSC

James R. Stanley, New Castle attorney, today assumed duties as legal assistant to Crawford F. Parker of the Public Service Commission.

He succeeds Robert Young, Franklin, who resigned to become Johnson County prosecutor.

Mr. Stanley, an IU graduate, is a member of the New Castle law firm of Scotten & Hinchshaw.

## The 'Biographer in Bronze'—Sculptor Jo Davidson Is Dead

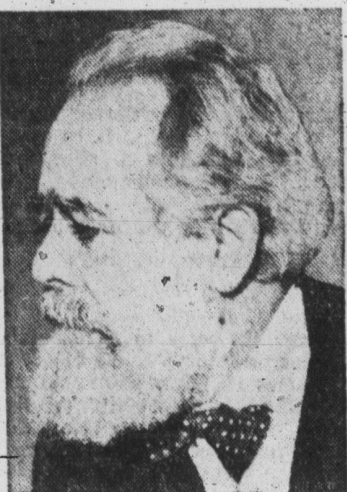
PARIS, Jan. 3.—Sculptor Jo Davidson, 68, often called the "biographer in bronze," died yesterday of a heart attack in Tours, the U. S. embassy announced today.

Mr. Davidson, whose busts of the world's famous spanned four decades, returned recently to France from Israel where he had completed sculptures of President Chaim Weizmann, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, other government leaders and new immigrants.

The statuaries was to record the birth of the young Jewish nation. He had planned to return to Israel to complete the series.

Mr. Davidson was born on New York's Lower East Side Mar. 30, 1883, and with tremendous energy boosted himself out of poverty to become the "plastic historian" of his generation.

At 16 he won a scholarship to the Art Students' League and supported himself by doing burnt-wood drawings. He left art work for a while to attend Yale with the idea of making a career in medicine.



JO DAVIDSON ... 'Plastic Historian.'

But before he had completed his medical schooling, he returned to sculpture because as he explained he could not help himself, but had to try his hand at modeling figures.

He received his first commission in 1905 to do a bust of "David," and two years later left for Paris for further study. The robust sculptor rejected formal training to leave school to continue his own experiments.

He suffered hard times while he worked alone, but had his first real financial success when Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney bought his bust of a Swiss girl in 1908.

During the next two decades his work became legendary as he carved portraits in bronze of James Barrie, Anatole France, George Bernard Shaw, Mahatma Gandhi, Marshal Poch and Rudyard Kipling.

In 1909, Mr. Davidson married Yvonne Keratrat. They had two sons, Jacques and Jean. He again was married in 1941 to Florence G. Lucius after his first wife's death in 1934. His wife, sons and two sisters survive.

Mr. Davidson became an ardent admirer of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his bronze head of FDR has been described by Mrs. Roosevelt as "the best thing that has been done" of her husband.

## Hoosier Cities Fluoridate Water

Five Indiana cities with 643,500 inhabitants now treat their public water supplies with fluorine to help control tooth decay in children, the State Board of Health reported today.

In addition, Dr. Roy Smiley of the dental health division said plans of four other cities with a total population of 50,000 to fluoridate their water supplies have been approved by the board. The cities, awaiting installation of equipment are Michigan City, Bedford, New Carlisle and Tell City.

Newest users of the fluorine program, Dr. Smiley said, are Columbus and Zionsville.

Dr. Smiley said when the four cities' awaiting installation of equipment begin their programs it will raise the number of persons in natural-artificial treatment areas to 813,500, about 20 per cent of Indiana's population, which is considered sufficient. Those areas include 120,000 persons.

Mrs. Emma Rivers Milner, Indiana's most respected church editor, writes exclusively for The Times.

in 1905 to do a bust of "David," and two years later left for Paris for further study. The robust sculptor rejected formal training to leave school to continue his own experiments.

He suffered hard times while he worked alone, but had his first real financial success when Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney bought his bust of a Swiss girl in 1908.

During the next two decades his work became legendary as he carved portraits in bronze of James Barrie, Anatole France, George Bernard Shaw, Mahatma Gandhi, Marshal Poch and Rudyard Kipling.

In 1909, Mr. Davidson married Yvonne Keratrat. They had two sons, Jacques and Jean. He again was married in 1941 to Florence G. Lucius after his first wife's death in 1934. His wife, sons and two sisters survive.

Mr. Davidson became an ardent admirer of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his bronze head of FDR has been described by Mrs. Roosevelt as "the best thing that has been done" of her husband.

## IT'S MURDER On the Highways

INDIANAPOLIS TRAFFIC TOLL (3 Days)

	1951	1952
Accidents .....	25	33
Hurt .....	17	20
Dead .....	0	1

ANDERSON—Mrs. Lizzie Bevan, 79, Fortville, died today of injuries suffered New Year's night when two cars crashed in the downtown section.

NEW ALBANY—Patricia White, 19, died yesterday soon after being hurt in a two-car crash at a street corner.

GARY—Mrs. Richard Rine, 55, was killed yesterday when a freight train hit an auto. Her husband was seriously hurt.

## Murder Retrial Set at Brazil

BRAZIL, Jan. 3.—Arthur E. Parker, convicted of murdering a woman whose body he claims was never found, gets a new chance for freedom soon.

Judge Robert B. Stewart, Clay County Circuit Court, today set Jan. 14 for a retrial of charges that Parker killed and cut up the body of his landlady, Mrs. Lillian Marie Johnson, Terre Haute, Parker was convicted in 1948.

Parker, serving a life term in state prison, won a new trial on his appeal to the Indiana Supreme Court. He contended Mrs. Johnson was living in Indianapolis after the date in 1947 when she disappeared and was presumed slain.

Parker accused detectives of using coercion to get a confession from him. And he said parts of a skeleton found in a shallow grave were not Mrs. Johnson's.

STRAUSS SAYS:

USUAL STORE HOURS DAILY 9:30 TILL 5



# THE CLEARANCE SALE OF NECKTIES

More Than 2,000 Men's Silk Ties in 3 Sale Groups

1.35

Were \$2 and 2.50

1.85

Were 3.50

2.85

Were \$5, \$6 and 7.50

This is the sale that brings men (and women who buy for men) in every-record-setting numbers around the tie cases!

The ties are in strict masculine test—fresh and fine—mild mannered—or assertive (in a gentlemanly way)—A wondrous range of selections as to colorings—textures—types and treatments.

The Tie Island is just inside the door. The ties are on top of the cases for easy choosing.



# MEN'S COLORED AND WHITE SHIRTS—2.95

Several Hundred of Them—Mostly 3.95 Shirts

These are our own CustomField Shirts—outstanding at their original prices, 3.65 and 3.95 (These in the Sale were mostly 3.95)—They are of special grade broadcloth—the workmanship is clean—The white broadcloth Shirts have non-wilt collars—the plain color broadcloths have soft or non-wilt collars. About half of them are WHITE broadcloths, fresh and clean—There are around quite a few plain colored shirts. All in all it adds up and makes a wonderful opportunity—an invitation to load up!

# L. STRAUSS & CO.-THE MAN'S STORE

MILK keeps you fit

Milk keeps you fit, keeps you trim, keeps you young. Every man—young and old—needs at least four glasses a day. Drink a glass for breakfast, for lunch, for dinner and just before you go to bed.

fits your budget, too!

Fortunately, milk prices have stayed far below most prices—actually, every dollar spent for milk is worth \$1.36. Yes, according to government figures, milk gives you a 36¢ bonus on every dollar. To stretch food money, simply serve more milk!