

MURDER IS PUZZLE TO FRENCH POLICE

Other and Son Slain in Mysterious Way.

Paris.—Edgar Allan Poe could not have easily conceived anything more grisly and mysterious than a crime which is now occupying the attention of police all over France and which has sent a thrill of horror through the entire nation.

A few days after a trunk in wicker had been deposited in the baggage department of the station at Lille, in the north of France, some attendants complained of an unpleasant odor arising from the basket.

Find Man's Body.

Each day it became worse. The trunk was finally opened. Pressed tightly in the wicker box was the body of a man. The legs had been bent over the chest and tied there, arms and hands were missing; the face was unrecognizable.

Police were not long in identifying the victim as Francois Rigaudin, age thirty-three, living in Paris. They found, too, that the trunk had been sent from Paris to a nonexistent address at Lille.

Linking threads of the story together with the thorough method for which the French Surete Generale crime experts are renowned, the detectives made the startling discovery that the victim was the son of an elderly woman, who had herself been murdered some months before without the murderers being discovered.

The mother, Mme. Marie Blanc, had been killed by bullet shots at midnight in her son's home.

Belief had been expressed that Mme. Blanc had been the victim of a band of international revolutionaries, since it was known that at one time she had been conderged to Almeraya, one of the noted Bonnet Rouge gang of anarchists. Almeraya himself had committed suicide in prison after the arrest of members of the gang, tying a bootlace around his neck. After the break up of the Bonnet gang, mother and son were stated to have lost sympathy with the revolutionary movement.

Theory of Revenge.

The theory that both Rigaudin and his mother were struck down by enfeebled former companions was strengthened when it became known that a day or two before the murder of the son, four men called upon him at the house where he was staying temporarily in Lille. They were all foreigners. A woman in black also called.

Following their visit, Rigaudin received a telegram making an appointment outside Paris. He left Lille and nothing was heard of him until the finding of his body in the station baggage room. That he went to Paris seems evident, since the trunk containing his remains was sent from the Gare du Nord at Paris by a person unknown.

Rigaudin worked as an accountant or several small firms and was not a rich man. Neither had his mother any wealth. What, then, could be the motive of the double murder if not political? Every possible clue has been sifted by the eagle-eyed French officers, but the assassins have vanished.

Good Health of Girl

Leads Her to Kill Self

Berlin.—Many peculiar reasons are given for committing suicide, but it appears that room can always be found for one more. The latest is that of a young Berlin woman who took her life because she was in good health.

The girl, Erna Czogor, called upon a physician in Charlottenburg for an examination. She seemed perfectly normal when she entered the office and the doctor believed that she was one of those modern persons who regularly undergo physical examinations in order to anticipate and thus prevent illness. He did as he was requested and when he was finished told her she was perfectly sound and complimented her on her excellent physical condition.

Instead of appearing pleased, however, Erna became nervously excited. Without uttering a word she fled from the examination room. A moment or two later a revolver shot was heard in the outer hallway. Unfortunately, before a physician could reach her she was dead.

Magician Hewes' Widow

Dies as Husband Lived

New York.—As "Hewes, the magician," lived in life—a mystery—his widow died. Mrs. Hewes, who lived alone in a four-room apartment here, was found strangled to death. There was nothing to explain the circumstances under which she died. The body was found by a maid. Mrs. Hewes, who had made a practice of telling fortunes for the entertainment of friends and callers, apparently was well-to-do. Bank books among her effects showed deposits of large sums.

Sold Injected Into

Veins Aids Tuberculars

London.—Gold is being used as a treatment for consumption at Brompton hospital here. A salt of gold is combined with sodium and injected into the veins of the patients, and the elution acts on the tuberculous germs. It is a Danish discovery called sanocrysin.

Souvenirs From Garden

of Eden for Tourists

It, on your vacation you happen to stumble into the town of Qurna at the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers you may not be impressed by the scenery or the city but you will soon be informed that it is the site of the Garden of Eden and to prove it you will be shown the "Tree of Knowledge," says a writer in the Washington Star. The tree is merely a decayed trunk with a few scraggly branches and these will soon be out of business, but the natives have thoughtfully planted another tree nearby and this baby will probably do service as "the tree" when the older one has departed.

Anyone visiting this locality is presumed to have come to see the tree, for there is little else, and the children of the town are eager in their efforts to act as guides to visitors. The new arrival is at once spotted and surrounded by the juvenile guides and almost dragged to the tree. Arriving on the ground the boys will bound into the branches and offer chips as souvenirs.

Just Another Example

of Unrewarded Genius

Mankin, has a habit of ignoring its benefactors and allowing its geniuses to die in want. Benjamin Dancer, who died in poverty and blindness in 1887, is a case in point. Dancer, whose name is practically unknown, would, if he could survey the world, see one of his inventions used untold millions of times daily.

Every time a button is pushed to ring a bell and the ringing stops when the pressure is released, it is time to ring up one more for Dancer. He invented the spring, electrical contact interrupter, which is the basis of all push buttons. This device was also used for years on automobiles and X-ray machines.

He invented the porous cup used for years in wet batteries. Among other things he invented various appliances for research work by scientists.

Polish Mourning Traditions

Polish tradition is very strict as regards mourning, at least in the case of women. Mourning is signified above all by a black hat and veil. In the hard postwar years poverty compelled women to accept any dark-colored dress and coat, even at the funeral itself.

The hat and veil are worn, not only by women but also by girls of all ages from ten upward. It is quite common to see a schoolgirl running about with a veil trailing behind her such as only an old-fashioned widow would wear in western Europe or America.

This custom does not affect working women, since they rarely wear hats, but only shawls over their heads.

Burbot May Out Codfish

The nearest fresh-water relative of the cod, the burbot fish, may strip its skin of honors in producing medicinally valuable oil.

Scientific experiments, reported to the bureau of fisheries, have demonstrated that burbot liver oil is eight times as potent as cod liver oil in the treatment of rickets.

The burbot, inhabiting the Great Lakes and considered a pest by fishermen because it tears their nets and preys on small fry, may become a significant part of the commercial catch. It is believed.

The annual catch of the fish, known also as lawyer or eel pout, was 510,972 pounds in 1927.

Cigarette Statistics

The United States Department of Agriculture says that burned or burning cigarettes are discarded in the United States at the rate of 170,000 a minute, or \$30,000,000,000 a year. Ignition test made with pads of dry grass showed that a burning cigarette butt would start a fire in 90 per cent of the cases with a wind velocity of three to four miles an hour. The cigarette is one of the greatest fire hazards the forester knows. A trifling fraction of the enormous number of butts discarded is enough to do immeasurable fire damage in forests, wood lands and grass lands.

Hunters in Red at Funeral

Hunting horses and mourners in hunting costume attended the funeral of Mrs. Anna Isabel Jones, a member of the Quorn Hunt club, at Gladys, Wales, recently. Complying with her request that there be no indications of mourning, the corpse was dressed in her riding habit and reposed in a Russian casket of polished wood. The hearse was a hay cart, painted red, the estate colors, and covered with moss. Mrs. Jones' two favorite hunters were attended by a groom in red hunting costume. Burial was in a wild and isolated place on a mountain side.

Decatur's Schooldays

The dashing Decatur, who humbled the proud dey of Algiers, and after whom so many New York boys were named when he was in the zenith of his naval glory, lived in Powder Mill lane and went to school at the Lower Dublin academy in Holmesburg, Pa. For all its pretentious name the "academy" was a small log and stone structure with only two front windows and a shingled roof. Stephen Decatur did not take kindly to study, but he is said to have carved his name on every desk in the school room.—New York Times.

NEW ARMY RIFLE FASTEST OF ALL

Fires Ten Times and Reloads Automatically.

Washington.—A new model semi-automatic rifle, which can be fired three times as fast as the old Springfield service rifle with which the doughboy is armed, has been developed under the supervision of the War department, it has been disclosed. The weapon is referred to as model T-3 Garand, and was invented by an employee of the ordnance department.

On the recommendation of the semi-automatic board, which has been testing out the merits of nine German, Belgian, Czechoslovakian and American rifles during the summer, the War department has ordered the construction of twenty of the Garand rifles for extensive service tests. The board liked the performance of the Garand rifle better than that of any of the other weapons presented.

It recommended, however, against adopting any semi-automatic rifle as standard prior to comparison of the service tests of the Garand and the Pederson semi-automatic rifle, which until recently was regarded as the best weapon of its type.

The Garand is a .276 caliber weapon as compared with the .30 caliber Springfield. Despite the fact that it is a semi-automatic, the Garand weighs slightly less than the Springfield, a circumstance that surprised the board members. The Garand fires ten times and reloads automatically. All the operator has to do is to pull the trigger for each shot and insert a new clip when the ten cartridges have been fired.

According to officers who followed the tests at the Aberdeen proving ground, the Garand can be fired ninety times a minute, as compared with thirty times a minute for the regular service rifle.

Wayside Peddlers Ruled Off California Road

Los Angeles, Calif.—Cleaning up and improving the appearance of highways is being made more effective by California through a law prohibiting fruit, vegetable and other peddlers from using state roads for the sale of their wares.

The statute represents an advance in the campaign to "clean up and beautify highways" initiated and being carried on by the Automobile Club of Southern California, it is pointed out.

Since the rights of way of state highways in almost all cases extend well beyond each edge of the surfaced or utilized roadways, it is evident that this new law will eliminate from those main thoroughfares many transient peddlers.

A regulation prohibiting the posting or erection of advertising signs of all kinds or sizes on the state highway rights of way has been in effect for a number of years in California. It is observed by the automobile club, and state highway commission employees are instructed to remove such signs, billboards or other displays wherever found along the state's roads.

Chewing Gum Delays

Reds' View of "Chicago"

Moscow.—The American stage success "Chicago" is scheduled for early production this season by the Moscow Art theater, where it is now being rehearsed.

Russian actors meet curious obstacles in following the stage directions of this play. They were greatly puzzled by instructions to one of the characters to light a match on his trousers. Experiments showed that it could not be done with Russian matches and arrangements are being made for importing a few boxes of the American variety.

The Art theater directors were also amazed by the amount of chewing gum which figures in the stage directions, and that item, too, will be imported.

Letter Asking Jars Goes 45 Miles in 17 Years

Petersburg, Mich.—Seventeen years ago Miss Leo-Lowe of Detroit needed some fruit jars, so she dropped a postcard to her mother to that effect. The card reached its destination in excellent condition several days ago with no marks to indicate what delayed its 45-mile journey. Meanwhile Mrs. Lowe died and her daughter, now Mrs. William Hersbeck, no longer needs the jars.

Denies He Was Robbed; Other Admits Robbery

Milwaukee, Wis.—One hears of denial of robbery by the accused and the insistence of the deed by the accuser, but when the tables are turned—That is the question which grew out of the case in which Bruce Spence, confessed narcotic thief, figured here recently. While he was charged with six thefts, Spence asserted he had robbed the office of Dr. H. C. Ladewig, Milwaukee physician. Doctor Ladewig was firm in his denial of the robbery. Spence was equally insistent that he had committed a felony. The judge held the case open to determine whether the prisoner was a drug addict.

Waits 25 Years to Get \$2 Witness Fee

Cleveland, Ohio.—Twenty-five years ago the city of Cleveland gave A. J. Folsum a nicely worded bit of paper. It was a legal equivalent to an I. O. U. for \$2 and was earned by Folsum when he was a court witness.

Recently it occurred to Folsum that he had never collected. So he rummaged through his possessions, located the subpoena, and presented it to Deputy A. Mer Patton in police court. It was Patton's turn to rummage. For two hours he fingered through dusty and yellowed files. With a sigh of relief he found the records on the Waddell case.

"Do I get my interest on that, too?" asked Folsum. That was another puzzle, but it was finally decided in the negative and Folsum departed with his \$2 fee.

Hawk, Not Cat, Best to Exterminate Mice

Milwaukee.—A family of ten hawks, led by the patriarch, circled once and swooped low over the decoys. They circled again. The ducks hadn't been flying near and hunters who crouched in wait were peeved; they shot. The hawk family came down.

As the birds fell, farmers lost \$100 and to Wisconsin duck hunters were chalked up ten more useless deaths.

Wisconsin farmers are losing their hawk and owl friends in swarms because the trigger fingers of duck hunters itch and no ducks are flying. Owen J. Gromme, Milwaukee museum taxidermist and Izak Walton league member, declares. Mr. Gromme has been spending several days in and near Milwaukee marshes waiting for specimen ducks.

"The hunter who shoots owls and hawks now is upsetting a natural balance," he said. "These birds are beneficial flesh eaters, killing the mice that feed on the farmer's grain. With the older hawks and owls slain in the hunting season, farmers tell me they notice an increase in mice in the granaries."

"A hawk or owl eats 15 mice a day and the United States biological survey has estimated that each hawk or owl, resident on a farm, is worth \$10 to a farmer."

Royal Medal Is Sought

for Bahaman Fisherman

Nassau, Bahamas.—A royal medal for bravery will undoubtedly be asked for Edward F. Hanna, a fisherman of Spring Point, for the rescue of twelve persons, including two women and two children, from what appeared a hopeless task. The Heasties sloop, returning from a Sunday school picnic at Delectable bay, with twelve passengers aboard, capsized and the entire party was thrown into the sea. Hanna, in his boat nearby, jumped into the water and saved every one of the passengers single-handed. Swimming from one drowning person to another he brought them one by one to the rigging and mast of the capsized boat.

One woman, clinging to an eight-year-old girl, was almost drowned when Hanna reached her. Three of the rescued were in a semi-conscious state when saved, and two of them were practically brought from the bottom. All of the party were non-swimmers.

Descendants of Heroine

Seeking Historic Knife

Haverhill, Mass.—Persistent attempts to purchase the knife used by Hannah Dustin in scalping Indians may finally be brought to a successful conclusion by the Dustin-Dustin Family association, the 70 members of which are all direct descendants of the historically famous Indian killer.

On March 16, 1697, Hannah stepped into the pages of history when she and her children's nurse were captured by redskins during an attack on Haverhill. When their captors camped for the night the two women and an English youth killed and scalped the entire band with the exception of a squaw and a little boy.

A New Hampshire man has been in possession of the knife for years and has steadfastly refused to part with it. It is now understood by the association that the owner has consented to bequeath the relic to Hannah's descendants.

Janitor's Work Added

to School Curriculum

Akron, Ohio.—And next comes the newest course offered in the curriculum of the up to date school. It will be a course in how to become a janitor. The course will become a part of the regular program of the Akron school system. However, it will not be listed in the programs as "janitoring." Custodian Training school is much more dignified.

Camera at Race Finish

Will Decide Disputes

Paris.—The famous Longchamps race course has been the scene of some bitter disputes at the finish, so the stewards have decided to install a camera in the judges' stand, and hereafter the result of every race will be photographed. The pictures will be developed immediately and can be studied by any dissatisfied plunger.

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