

# KIDNAPING OF LINDBERGH BABY STIRS WHOLE WORLD

No Crime in Modern History Has Aroused Such Universal Indignation—Tops Long List of Abductions.

No crime in recent history so aroused the entire American public as the kidnaping of the young son of Col. and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh. Little Charles Augustus, Jr., is the nation's baby. He is a national character and has been since the day he was born. His abduction was a dastardly crime resented by every red-blooded American, grown-ups and children alike.

Every parent grieved with the stricken father and mother. They knew the anguish they endured. They could feel the heart throbs and the immeasurable grief. They could realize what the finding of that empty crib meant to the grief-stricken parents. They knew the darkness that settled over Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh as they viewed the dirty footprints left by the villains, and the ladder on the lawn outside the window, that told so vividly the fate that had befallen their young son. It is one great American heart that grieved with those grief-stricken parents.

A little delicate child, only twenty months of age, had been dragged from the affectionate embrace of his parents, from the tender care with which he had been surrounded, and spirited away into the foul hands of the most detestable type of criminals. There was no more touching incident of the whole dastardly affair than the pathetic appeal of the mother to the kidnapers to feed her sick baby properly. It was addressed by Mrs. Lindbergh to the kidnapers of her son and broadcast through the press of the nation. In it she said:

"To the kidnapers of the Lindbergh baby:

"Here is a heartbroken appeal direct from the mother of the child you stole.

"The baby has been sick and its recovery may depend on the treatment it gets from you. You must be especially careful about the diet.

"Mrs. Lindbergh issued to the press today the strict diet she has been following since the baby fell ill. She did this in the hope you might read this story and that there was some spark of humanity even in the heart of a baby thief.

"Here is the diet, accompanied by the fervent prayer of a grieving mother:

"One quart of milk during the day.

"Three tablespoons of cooked cereal morning and night.

"One yolk of egg daily.

"One baked potato or rice once a day.

"Two tablespoons of stewed fruit daily.

"Half a cup of orange juice on waking.

"Half a cup of prune juice after the afternoon nap.

"And fourteen drops of medicine called viosterol during the day.

"That's all, kidnapers of the Lindbergh baby. That's what the baby's mother wants you to give the boy. Follow her request and you may in some small part redeem yourself in the eyes of a contemptuous world."

The fathers of the nation in spirit cramped with Colonel Lindbergh the woods about the large estate, searching with him for clues that would lead to the recovery of the stolen child. In spirit they repeated his prayers and his curses. To the mothers of the nation the abduction was a real, a personal tragedy. Not one of them but felt with Anne Morrow Lindbergh the devastating blow that had been struck American motherhood, not one of them but suffered the keenest of all agonies—fear for the safety and life of the child she had borne, and not one of them but said in her heart "What if it had been MY baby?"

It is no exaggeration to say that 100,000,000 Americans immediately formed themselves into a searching party, in spirit if not in body, with the sole purpose of restoring the Lindbergh baby in safety as soon as possible to his mother's arms. From the highest to the most lowly, news of the Lindbergh kidnaping was the all-important topic.

It is not often that a President of the United States puts from his mind even for a little while momentous affairs of state because of concern over what has happened to some individual. But that is exactly what happened in this case. Herbert Hoover, in the midst of pondering over the solution of pressing national and international problems, forgot for the moment that he was Chief Executive of a nation and remembered only that he was an American father. So he gave orders that he was to be kept informed of the latest developments in the case no matter at what hour of the night the news should arrive at the White House.

What was true of the President was true of other high government officials, both state and national. The first activity in trying to earth the criminals was, of course, on the part of local police near the Lindbergh home in New Jersey.

Through the agency of the teletype the alarm reached the police of New York, Newark, Jersey City, Elizabeth, Camden, and Philadelphia within a few minutes of the receipt of the first

news at Trenton. All of them quickly swung into action, as did the New York and Pennsylvania state police.

Orders were flashed to every precinct by the police telegraph system to be on the alert for suspicious cars, while the new police radio station WPEG flashed word to the short wave station of the patrolling detective car to join in the watch.

Similar steps, though on a smaller scale, were being repeated simultaneously in every city for many miles around the Lindbergh home. Posses of motorcycle and bandit squad policemen from Philadelphia, Pa., and New Jersey state troopers, clamped down a heavy guard on every bridge over the Delaware river.

But the circle of activity soon widened beyond state borders. Within a few hours the news reached Washington, the full co-operation of the federal government in hunting down the kidnapers was offered to the New Jersey state authorities. Attorney-General William D. Mitchell hurried to the White House for a conference with President Hoover and immediately afterwards the Department of Justice announced that every agency of the department would co-operate to the utmost with the state authorities.

Following a second conference between the President and his attorney general, it was announced that the government had placed its prohibition enforcement officers as well as all of the other department of justice agents on the case. All agents in the eastern section of the country, acting under direct orders from the President, transmitted through the justice department's bureaus of investigation in New York and Philadelphia, were instructed to be on the lookout for suspicious characters. Between these two offices the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Connecticut, were immediately covered with a network of investigation by the most skillful sleuths in the service of the United States.

Although kidnaping is a state rather than a federal offense, the United States government officials had justification for entering the case because of the possibility that the kidnapers might have violated some other federal statute. But one immediate result of this abduction was to cause a widespread demand for speeding action on bills then before congress making kidnaping a federal offense.

One of them by Senator Roscoe C. Patterson of Missouri makes the transportation of a kidnaped person across a state boundary an offense punishable by death. Another by Representative John J. Cochran of Missouri makes kidnaping a federal

offense if state boundaries are crossed and still a third bill makes use of the mails in kidnaping cases a federal crime punishable by a maximum of 20 years imprisonment. Not only was legislation to curb this crime the chief topic in the national legislative hall, but state legislatures began taking measures to increase the state penalties for abduction.

But more striking than the immediate action taken by the constituted authorities of the law for dealing with the criminals who had stolen away the Lindbergh baby was the instantaneous reaction of private individuals everywhere to the crime. It is doubtful if ever before in the history of America have so many millions of her citizens felt the personal obligation to aid in a gigantic manhunt—in spirit if not in reality.

Aviators, who had been buddies of the famous flying colonel, immediately placed themselves and their planes at his disposal to aid in the search. Thousands of amateur detectives were busily engaged in watching for "clues" which might aid the authorities in catching the malefactors. In New York the clergy of three religious denominations joined in broadcasting a prayer for the safe and speedy return of the Lindbergh baby—a prayer which found an echo in the hearts of millions.

Nor was the excitement over the case confined to the borders of the United States. In far-off China, the kidnaping was told in big headlines alongside the news of the Chinese defeat on the Chapel-Woosung battlefield. The French press, to which Colonel Lindbergh has been a hero since his conquest of the Atlantic in 1926, was filled with the story of the crime. Germany forgot for a moment its heated political atmosphere arising from the presidential election campaign and was swept by a wave of sympathy for the parents of the lost baby. All Berlin newspapers published the kidnaping on their front pages, along with numerous photographs, an extraordinary occurrence in that country, where political issues invariably occupy all available front-page space, even when an election campaign is not in progress.

England's anxiety over the fate of the little boy was nearly as keen as America's. The news of the abduction caused a sensation in Mexico where the baby's grandfather, the late Dwight Morrow, had been ambassador from the United States. A stream of telegrams was sent to the Lindberghs from their many friends in Mexico. President Ortiz Rubio, Foreign Secretary Manuel C. Telez and J. Reuben Clark, who succeeded the late Senator Dwight Morrow as ambassador, asked to be kept closely informed of any developments in the search for the kidnapers.

The abduction was brought home to Mexicans all the more vividly because of the fact that it had occurred on the third anniversary of Colonel Lindbergh's arrival in the Mexican capital on the visit before his last trip to Mexico, in the days when he was courting Anne Morrow in the romantic atmosphere of Cuernavaca.

Just as the news of the kidnaping of the Lindbergh baby circled the globe within a few hours after it had occurred, so had the news of the birth of this baby been an item of worldwide interest. Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., was born June 22, 1930, which also was the anniversary of the birth of his mother, the former Anne Morrow, daughter of the late Senator Dwight W. Morrow of New Jersey. She was twenty-four years old the day her son was born. The baby was born in the Morrow home in New Jersey, in which his parents were married May 27, 1929.

In the four days interval between June 22 and the day the birth certificate was filed members of the Morrow and Lindbergh family participated in an amicable discussion as to what the infant would be named.

That question was settled when the birth certificate disclosed he was to be "Junior." And it was understood to have been Mrs. Lindbergh's choice all along. It was reported, too, that Lindbergh had favored calling his son after his father-in-law, but that for the first time since he hopped the Atlantic three years before he was turned back from his goal.

During his first few months of life, when his parents were making occasional short jaunts by airplane it frequently was reported that Charles Jr. was to accompany them. They did not take the infant on any of these trips, however, though the reports were so persistent that they gave rise to the impression that Charles Jr. would be brought up from earliest youth with the idea of making an aviator out of him.

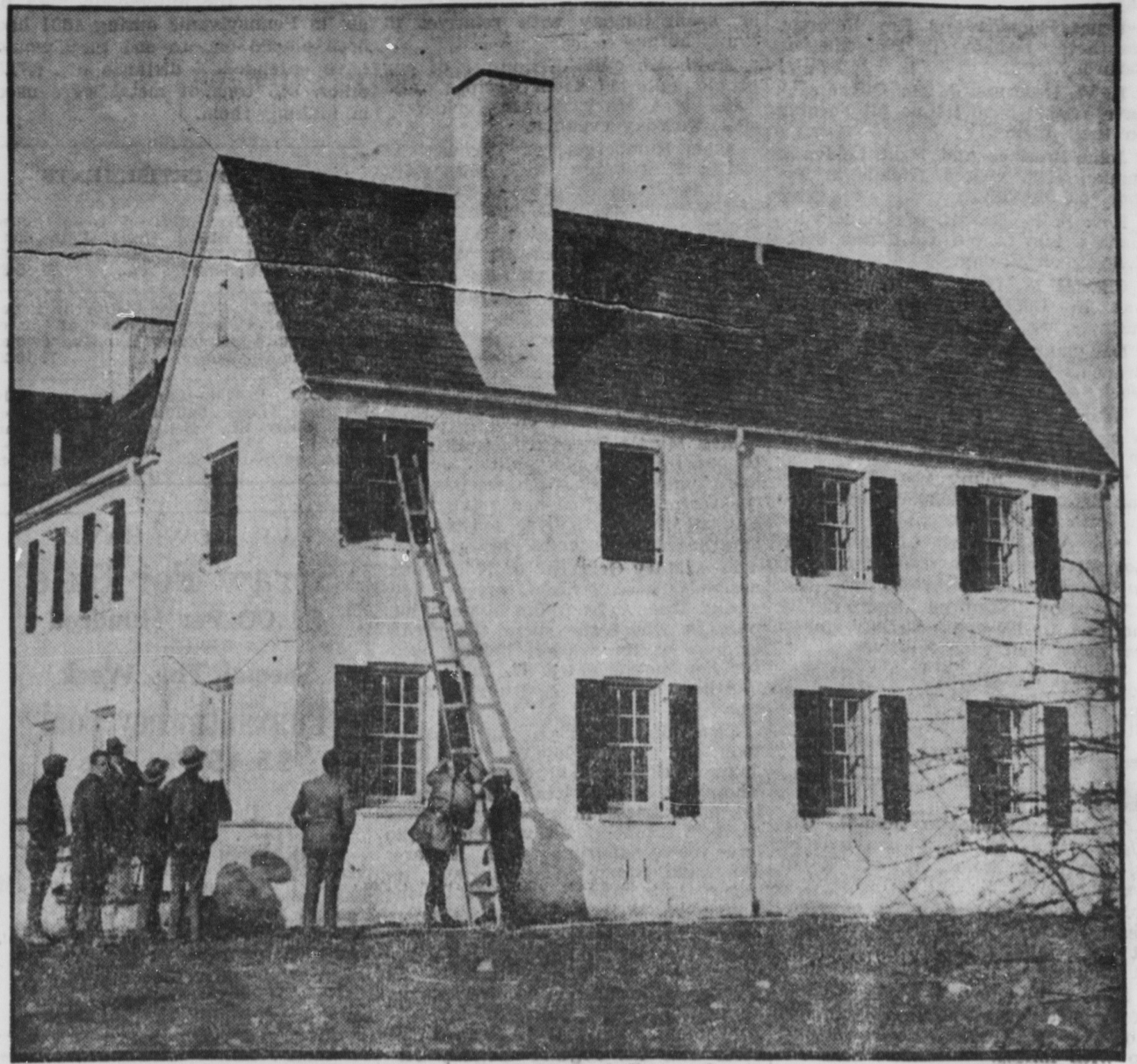
So widely was this conviction held, that his reticent father declared in an interview, which was printed in October, 1930, in the Pictorial Review, that Charles Jr.'s future was in his own hands.

"Our son," Colonel Lindbergh was quoted as saying, "has hardly reached the age to have his future determined for him, and, in any case, it is a question that he can decide for himself when the time comes.

"Personally, I do not want him to be anything or do anything that he himself has no taste or aptitude for.

When word of the birth of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. went around the world and even before it was announced, gifts began to arrive at the Morrow home for him in such profusion that they soon became an embarrassment. His parents were quoted as saying that the boy would have to remain an infant for ten years at least merely to wear out the baby clothes which had been sent to him.

## Window Used in Kidnaping Lindbergh Baby



State troopers re-enacting the kidnaping of Baby Lindbergh, showing the window and ladder used by the abductors.

## Four Generations of Lindbergh-Morrow Family



Mrs. Charles Long Cutter (second from left), great-grandmother; Mrs. Dwight Morrow, grandmother; Mrs. Lindbergh and the kidnaped baby.

## Latest Photo of Lindbergh Baby



Photograph of Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., made public by the family after the kidnaping to assist in the search for the child.

## THE PARENTS



Characteristic pose of Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh taken after one of their long flights.

## FAMOUS KIDNAPINGS

1874—Charlie Ross, stolen in Germantown, Pa., never recovered and supposed to have been killed.

1900—Edward Cudahy was kidnaped by Pat Crowe, who served a prison sentence. Cudahy was returned.

1909—Billy Whittia, Sharon, Pa., recovered after \$10,000 ransom was paid. Kidnapers imprisoned.

1911—Baby Hencks, Chicago. Believed slain. Abductors in Joliet prison.

1911—Lloyd Trezke, Cleveland. Found in California after fifteen years.

1913—Catherine Winters, kidnaped in Newcastle, Ind.; never found.

1915—Jimmy Glass, Jersey City, still missing and believed slain.

1917—Baby Lloyd Keet, Springfield, Mo., slain.

1919—Billy Dansey, kidnaped in New Jersey. Body found in swamp months later.

1924—Roy Borth, kidnaped by moron in Chicago. Found unharmed after a week.

1924—Bobby Franks, kidnaped and slain in Chicago by Richard Loeb and Nathan Leopold, who are serving life sentences in prison.

1927—Marian Parker, twelve years old, Los Angeles, kidnaped and slain by William Hickman, who was captured and executed.

1927—Billy Gaffney, four years old, Brooklyn, kidnaped for ransom and never found. Believed to have been slain.

1928—Billy Ranieri, ten years old, kidnaped but later restored to parents. Two kidnapers sentenced to 25 years in prison.

1930—Adolphus Busch Orthwein, thirteen years old, grandson of millionaire brewer, kidnaped from home near St. Louis but released 20 hours later. Kidnapers sentenced to prison.

1931—Marian McLean, six years old, Cincinnati, kidnaped and assaulted, and later found dead in basement. Slayer captured and confessed.