

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA PRICE TWO CENTS

THE WEATHER Generally fair tonight and Sunday with lowest temperature tonight 35 degrees; fresh westerly winds. TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

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SHOWMAN SLAIN AT WINDOW IN RIVERSIDE HOME

Theodore John Brunen, Carnival Owner, Killed at Home by Unknown Assailant

WIFE HEARS GUN FIRED; FINDS HIM LIFELESS Victim's Head Shattered by Charge Which Was Delivered at Close Range

WAS READING NEWSPAPER Friend of William Desmond Taylor, Motion-Picture Producer, Murdered in California

Feared Sudden Death, Brunen Told His Wife

Two days ago, "Honest John" Brunen told his wife that he feared a sudden death. "I expect to die soon, with my boots on," he declared.

Theodore John Brunen, a circus owner known as "Honest John," was murdered at 7:30 o'clock last night as he sat reading in a first-floor rear room of his home, 508 New Jersey avenue, Riverside, N. J.

A charge from a ten-gauge shotgun pressed against the pane ripped a hole through the glass and entered the head of the showman, said to have been a friend of William Desmond Taylor, motion-picture director, whose recent murder still baffles the police of Los Angeles.

Brunen was in the house with his wife, Doris. Their daughter, Hazel, eighteen years old, had gone to a motion-picture theatre. Mrs. Brunen later told Detective Ellis Parker that she was in the bathroom on the second floor when she heard a shot and the crash of glass.

Mrs. Brunen said she ran down stairs and through a window caught a glimpse of two men running along the boardwalk beside the house. As she was entering the rear room she saw a motorcar starting.

Mrs. Brunen then saw her husband's body on the floor with the back of his head shattered. One hand clutched the newspaper he had been reading.

Wife Says She Fainted Mrs. Brunen said she fainted, but revived soon, and screamed for help. Neighbors heard her cries, and Dr. S. E. Maule, of Riverside, was summoned. Mrs. Brunen, in a hysterical condition, was calling over the telephone for the police when the physician arrived.

Dr. Maule sent for Coroner Belton, of Burlington County, and the Riverside police summoned Detective Parker. Mrs. Brunen told the coroner about the two men she says she saw running around the house.

Mrs. Brunen was too nervous last night to endure questioning, but today she was calmer.

"When my husband came in last evening," she told Prosecutor Kelsey, "I noticed that his face was soiled. I mentioned it to him.

Told of Being Followed "Well," she said he replied, "I had a wild ride up from Williamstown trying to shake off three men who were following me in an automobile." "Did you know the men or did he describe them?" Mrs. Brunen was asked. "No, he didn't say he knew them. He told me he noticed them as he was leaving the winter quarters of his show at Williamstown. They drove their automobile a short distance behind his car and they increased their speed with him. He said he drove rapidly, and managed to get away from them.

"Did he appear worried?" a detective asked. "No," Mrs. Brunen replied, "he seemed to discuss the matter from the time he ate a good supper and then sat down with his back to the window and read the paper. He was reading aloud about the Kennedy-O'Connell murder when I left the kitchen to go to the bathroom."

Mrs. Brunen sobbed for a few minutes after telling officials what she knew of the murder. She sat on the edge of a bed in a first-floor front room. Her blonde hair was disheveled.

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PRISONER AT BAR MERELY FILES OUT WITH THE JURY

Then He Leaves Salem, N. J., for Philadelphia, but is Nabbed Last week at Salem, N. J., Harrison Shields, a Woodstock Negro, was on trial for chicken stealing. The trial dragged through an afternoon and at the end the Judge instructed the jury to return a sealed verdict that would be read the following morning.

To Wed in London



GILDA VARESI Star and co-author of "Enter Madame," in which she scored a big success in Philadelphia and New York. She is soon to be married to a London attorney

GILDA VARESI ENGAGED

Star of "Enter Madame" to Wed London Solicitor London, March 11.—The engagement of Gilda Varesi to a London solicitor, John Archibald, has been announced and the wedding is expected to take place within a few weeks.

Gilda Varesi appeared in Philadelphia early this year in "Enter Madame," of which she was both the co-author and star. This show was her first real success, although she had been known on the stage for a number of years, her previous roles having been almost entirely of a dramatic nature.

"Romance" she acted an Italian woman both in New York and in London, and also played the leading role with success in London during the illness of Doris Keane.

Just before appearing in "Enter Madame," Miss Varesi made a deep impression in New York by her performance as a blind woman in "The Jest," with the Barrymores, and had previously secured in Winthrop Ames' production of "Children of Earth" and other plays.

WINDOW SMASHERS ROB STORE OF \$2000 IN GEMS

Second Robbery in Store at 1937 Columbia Avenue Jewelry valued at \$2000 was stolen early today from the display window of the window, Hermann Wagenheim, 1937 Columbia avenue.

PARDONS BOARD TO HEAR PLEA FOR PRIEST'S LIFE

Will Be Asked to Commute Death Sentence of Wife-Murderer The State Board of Pardons will be asked on April 19 to commute the sentence of death to life imprisonment in the case of James Priest, who murdered his wife here in April, 1920.

Priest was sentenced to death in the electric chair, April 28 last by Judge McCullen. He is in the Western Penitentiary.

ACCIDENT CAUSES DEATH

Injuries in Falling From Car Result Fatally for Richard Mengert Richard Mengert, sixty-one years old, of 323 West Duval street, died today in the Germantown Hospital from injuries received two weeks ago when he fell from a street car. Mr. Mengert was a salesman for the Underwood Typewriter Company.

Mengert was injured when he boarded a Midvale avenue car in Germantown. After he entered the car, he was thrown from the car by a car swayed and Mr. Mengert tumbled to a hard fall on the street. The door opened and he fell to the street, receiving a broken ankle and other injuries. He was taken to the Germantown Hospital.

HELD IN AUTO THEFT

Boys Questioned in Death of Man in Accident Edward Lafferty, sixteen years old, of 1000 Locust street, was held in \$1000 bail today by Magistrate Lorn for a further hearing next Saturday on the charge that he stole a touring car belonging to E. B. Wilkinson, 5917 Pulaski avenue, Thursday.

A companion, Arthur O'Connell, seventeen years old, Twenty-third and Clearfield streets, was held Tuesday in \$1000 bail for a further hearing on Saturday.

Both boys deny that the car, while they used it, struck any one, but the police are questioning them along this line because of the killing of a man at Twenty-third and Clearfield streets Thursday evening by a motorcar which did not stop after the accident.

UNGER TO FACE NEW TRUE BILLS

State to Ask More Indictments Based on Use of Evans Fund Securities

WILL BRING LONGER TERM TO CONFESSED EMBEZZLER

Weeps in Cell and Begg That Brother Be Allowed to Comfort Him

Walter A. Unger, confessed looter of the Evans Dental Institute fund, who was indicted yesterday for stealing \$12,000 in cash, will be indicted again Monday for hypothecating securities which he stole from the fund's strongbox in the Girard National Bank.

Although by his own admission he stole \$130,000 worth of gilt-edged securities, and traveled through booklets and shops and reputable banking houses on the stock market, it is unlikely that this full amount will be charged against him in the indictments. The exact sum to be named on the true bills has not been determined.

The decision to indict him for his stock thefts was reached today, after the state prosecutor, J. Edgar Hoover, had worked hours on the accounts of E. D. Dier & Co., bankrupt brokerage house, and other firms through which he did business, to determine the dates of his pilferings.

Some Offenses "Outlawed" The statute of limitations makes it impossible to prosecute for larceny after two years, or for embezzlement of corporations after four.

Unger asserts he has not been guilty of either of these offenses since the last two years, and it was necessary to dig through a great mass of records to impeach this claim.

According to Major Wynne, head of the state detective force, Unger was able to show that he used stolen bonds in transactions as recently as 1920, which would cover the statute of limitations for larceny, and others in 1918, which would enable the District Attorney's office to bring a charge of embezzlement by an officer of a corporation. Both these charges form part of the indictment concerning the \$12,000 cash.

If possible, the Grand Jury will be asked to find additional indictments Monday morning, and Unger will be taken before Judge Shoemaker to plead Monday afternoon. Through his attorneys, he is expected, the Judge could sentence him immediately. He already faces a possible maximum sentence of five years, or a permanent fine of \$2500, or both, on the present indictment. The general belief is that Unger will get a fairly long sentence, so that he will be in the penitentiary for a number of years.

Wants Severe Sentence

John Weaver, former Mayor and chairman of the board of trustees of the institute fund, does not agree with this view. He especially does not agree with an assertion made yesterday by Assistant District Attorney Gordon that Unger displays the mentality of a four-year-old youth. "Nor does he find Unger's excuse that he wished to provide a competence for his mother a cause for sympathy.

"I cannot see anything in Unger's conduct that would justify a severe sentence," he said.

BANDITS ROB MINE PAYROLL

Hold Up Trolley Near Brownsville, Pa., and Wound Guard Brownsville, Pa., March 11.—(By A. P.)—Albert Fleming, manager of the W. J. Hatley & Co. store at Allison, Pa., and C. O. Evans, chief clerk, were robbed of approximately \$30,000, the company's mine payroll, by six bandits who held up a trolley car three miles from here today.

Elmer Hill, who accompanied Fleming and Evans as guard, was shot, but not seriously wounded. The bandits escaped in an automobile. The car had stopped at a lonely spot, when the men, each armed with a pistol, got aboard. Two covered the motorman and the other opened fire on the party with the money. Seizing the bag, they jumped into an automobile which had drawn up behind the trolley car, and drove off into the hills.

Office Force Can't Kid Jim Murphy Any More

They Had a Lot of Fun While Limricker's Photograph Was Being Taken—But Jim Has \$100 to Flaunt Before Them Today

Yesterday the office force thought they had a great joke on Jim Murphy. But today Jim has the laugh on them. You see, it was the office force that decided that Jim Murphy was the best of the ten, so they managed to get him out of the office. They took him to the office of the office force, and they were sure that some friends of Jim's had cooked up this one on him.

So Jim's credulity was shaken severely during the photographing process, but he stuck to it manfully, and we'll bet he picked up this morning's mail in fear and trembling, for if there hadn't been a check in it, he would have known that he was the goat and the office force was right.

But—providing Uncle Sam's postmen were on the job—he found a nice new check for ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS at his place at the breakfast table, and we can just imagine him taking it down to the office and flaunting it in the faces of all the wise guys who would have known that he was the goat for his picture.

His winning Lim'rick took: LIMERICK NO. 25 There was once a fellow named Crane Who went out to fish in the rain; He said, "If they bite I will stay here all night." For he carried his "bait" in a cane. However, it was a close call for Mr. Crane, for he was caught in the rain. Continued on Page Eight, Column Four

President Won't Release Hoover to Take Fair Post

Secretary Writes Mayor Moore That Harding Wishes Him to Remain in Cabinet, but Approves Plans for Sesqui-Centennial

Herbert C. Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, cannot accept the offer to become director general of the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition. President Harding has expressed the wish that Mr. Hoover remain in the Cabinet. The information was contained in a letter received by Mayor Moore today from Mr. Hoover. The letter expressed the deepest appreciation for the suggestion that he head the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition and wished the public-spirited offer of Edward W. Bok, who guaranteed an annual salary of \$50,000 for five years to Mr. Hoover should he consent to direct the exposition.

Mr. Hoover unqualifiedly endorsed the offer and placed the Department of Commerce squarely behind the movement. Secretary Hoover's letter follows: "Dear Mr. Mayor: I am in receipt of your letter of March 7, with its inclosure. It is necessary for me to leave today to open hearings in the West in connection with the Colorado River Commission, of which I am chairman. I probably will not return to Washington for several weeks, and regret therefore that it will not be possible for me to meet with the committee.

LOOK FOUR FIRMS IN ONE BUILDING

Thieves Visit 826 Walnut Street, Get Clocks and Watches and Crack Safe

HAUL IS ABOUT \$3600 Burglars, after ransacking storerooms and offices in the building at 826 Walnut street, early this morning, succeeded in getting away without attracting attention, although it is believed they must have used a truck in carrying off their plunder, worth about \$3600.

The thieves broke through the door of the B. J. Cooke Sons company on the ground floor and made a careful selection of the more valuable articles. Then they climbed a fire escape to the office on the second floor of John Gilmore, formerly engaged in the wholesale liquor business. Apparently finding nothing there, they descended their cupidity, the burglars tore down the tin partition between the office and a store room of the B. J. Cooke Sons Company.

In that place, they gathered more watches and clocks, throwing clocks out of boxes so as to pack watches in them for easy transportation. After that they went up to the office and factory of the Uneda Waist Company, on the third floor, where they took silk shirts and bolts of silk valued at about \$600.

Completing their search of that place, they went to the fourth floor, where Thomas H. Stevenson has a printing office. There they opened the safe without making the floor. They found the printing office without loot. Mr. Stevenson had not kept money in the safe for some time because the building was being burglarized by the B. J. Cooke Sons Company's safe. He decided the thieves might return, and he thought to take no chance over night.

The loss of the B. J. Cooke Sons Company is about \$3600. After that they went up to the office and factory of the Uneda Waist Company, on the third floor, where they took silk shirts and bolts of silk valued at about \$600.

Two Are Held on Murder Charge Paul Jones and Charles Lewis, Negroes, of South Fawn street near Fitzwater, were held without bail for the Grand Jury by Magistrate Dowd today in connection with the killing of Angelo Bonetto, a saloonkeeper at Fifteenth and Federal streets, February 18. Bonetto was shot, it is charged, by Jones in an argument in the saloon.

PRESIDENT PLAYS GOLF ON LINKS AT ORMOND

Threatening Weather Changes to Sunshine for Harding's Holiday Ormond Beach, Fla., March 11.—(By A. P.)—Landing from the houseboat of E. B. McLean, Washington publisher, on which he is making a trip to the Florida coast from St. Augustine, President Harding today played eighteen holes of golf over the Ormond course, instead of the Seabreeze Links, as had been planned.

General Fleet, Under Secretary Fletcher and Mr. McLean made up the foursome with the President. The weather, threatening earlier in the day, cleared and sunshine greeted the President on the links.

Mr. Harding and his party appeared to have greatly enjoyed their trip down the coast. A large crowd had gathered to assist in raising the machine. The President to play there. Another crowd saw him drive off on the Ormond Links.

His trip from St. Augustine was without incident, and the party's complete seclusion, as their craft was not equipped with wireless.

MEXICAN GENERAL KILLED

Gerardo Reyes and Six Men Die in Clash With Rebels Mexico City, March 11.—(By A. P.)—General Gerardo Reyes and six of his men were killed yesterday in the State of Vera Cruz during an encounter with the rebel leader Miguel Aleman.

General Guadalupe Sanchez, commanding the federal troops at Vera Cruz, has taken the field in person against Aleman.

MAN MISSING IN SALEM FRAUD

Former Treasurer Alfred D. Mitchell Bought for Bond Irregularity

ACCUSED OF USING \$80,000 IN CANCELED CITY ISSUE

\$30,000 Worth Found Floating About Among Philadelphia Banks and Brokers

Alfred D. Mitchell, former City Treasurer of Salem, N. J., is being sought to answer charges of misappropriation of \$80,000 worth of municipal bonds, said to have been taken by him when he was Treasurer nine years ago. Mitchell has been missing from his home at 21 East Rogers avenue, Merchantville, for three weeks.

Mitchell, it is declared, was told to cancel the \$80,000 issue, because a technicality in the wording of the original lot. Instead of canceling the original bonds, it is said, he used them as collateral in stock speculations.

When several brokerage houses in this city failed, throwing thousands of bonds upon the market for sale, some of these original bonds turned up. With the exception of the slight change in wording, they are the same as the bona-fide bonds later issued.

Bank Starts Inquiry About three years ago Mitchell became a member of the brokerage firm of Weber & Co. When the firm went on the rocks, it sold its holdings to Samuel N. Hall & Co.

Hall & Co. got a number of the \$500 bonds of Salem City, the other members of the firm apparently being unaware that they were duplicates of authorized bonds. Hall & Co. failed February 8, with assets of \$45,000 and liabilities of \$143,002.

Eighteen of the false Salem bonds, having a face value of \$9000, held by Hall & Co., as part of Mitchell's holdings, came into the hands of the Grand National Bank and were later referred to Cassatt & Co. The latter company a few days ago inquired of City Solicitor Orier, of Salem, concerning the bonds. A close examination of these revealed that they were not the bona-fide ones, but those that had been ordered canceled. Another block of \$12,000 worth of the bonds was said for a brokerage house at auction by Barnes, Lofand, Philadelphia auctioneers, investigation yesterday revealed.

\$34,000 of Bonds Found Unauthorized bonds aggregating approximately \$34,000 of the \$80,000 issue have been accounted for, having turned up at various brokerage and banking houses in this city, according to Warren A. W. Orier, City Solicitor of Salem, who is in charge of investigation.

"I have no doubt that Mitchell, when he was treasurer nine years ago, took the entire \$80,000 in bonds which he was ordered to withdraw," said Mr. Orier. "It is the most remarkable swindle ever conceived, in the manner in which it was put over," he said. "The whole thing occurred nine years ago, and although the bonds have been accounted for, Mitchell financed a steamship service out of Pennsylvania, there was talk that he was using municipal bonds that had been ordered canceled, no persons in Salem could believe that an entire \$80,000 bond issue, which in form was correct, but not authorized by the city, was being disposed of piecemeal by Mitchell."

"How he was able to conceal the bonds from the city," he said, "is a mystery."

BALKS HIS OWN SUICIDE

Edmund Street Man Opens Mouth Too Wide and Trembled Too Much Michael Venningo, forty-eight, 7207 Edmund street, stuck a revolver in his mouth last night intending to commit suicide. But he opened his mouth so wide and his hand trembled so much that the bullet merely tore a hole in his cheek. Physicians at the Frankford Hospital said the wound is not dangerous for the man to recover.

Venningo is said to have been acting strangely of late.

NEW YORK BROKER FAILS

Gerard & Co. Makes Assignment for Creditors New York, March 11.—(By A. P.)—Gerard & Co., dealers in investment securities, today announced an assignment for the benefit of its creditors.

Harold G. Hanner, of Brooklyn, was made assignee.

HALL CROWDED WITH SOUTH AFRICAN

STRIKERS BOMBED; MAJORITY BELIEVED DEAD LONDON, March 11.—The Trades Union Hall at Benoni, near Johannesburg, crowded with South African gold mine strikers, was bombed today, said a Central News dispatch from Johannesburg. The majority of those assembled were killed and the building was destroyed.

FOUR IN AUTO DROWNED

Machine Runs Through Open Draw of Florida Bridge St. Augustine, Fla., March 11.—(By A. P.)—Four persons, two young women and two youths, were drowned here today when a small closed car ran through the open draw of the bridge between Anastasia Island and St. Augustine.

The car went down in thirty feet of water with the occupants inside. Divers have been summoned from Jacksonville to assist in raising the machine. The boys were residents of St. Augustine while the young women were hotel workers.

Arrested in India



MOHANDAS K. GANDHI Leader of the Non-Co-operationist movement in India, who is venerated as a saint by the Hindus. He was arrested yesterday in Ahmedabad, 310 miles north of Bombay on a charge of sedition.

GANDHI ARRESTED; SEDITION CHARGED

Hindu Non-Co-operationist Leader, Venerated as Saint, Seized at Ahmedabad

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HUGHES DENIES TRAP FOR U.S. IN PACIFIC TREATY

Erroneous to Believe Pact Was Cunningly Devised by Other Powers, He Says

NO SECRET AGREEMENTS; TRADITIONS ARE UPHOLD

Cannot Reveal Confidential Conference Talks, Secretary Says in Letter

UNDERWOOD SUPPORTS HIM Democratic Senator Declares 4-Power Measure Is Outstanding Peace Step

By the Associated Press Washington, March 11.—Secretary of State Hughes in a letter today to Senator Underwood, Democratic Senate leader and arms conference delegate, took occasion to characterize intimations that the American delegates were induced to accept some plans for the four-Power Pacific treaty cunningly contrived by others opposed to American interests as a "very poor and erroneous conception of the work in connection with the Conference."

The Secretary added that the amenities of international intercourse precluded revealing the informal and confidential suggestions and conversations incident to the negotiations, but he assured the Senate that a full disclosure of everything said or done would reveal nothing derogatory to the part taken by the American delegates.

He asserted it would show no consideration or acceptance of any position not entirely consistent with the traditional policies of the American Government.

The four-Power pact itself requires no commentary, the Secretary said, adding that no ingenuity in argument or hostile criticism can add to it or make it even if it were greater than "its unequivocal language sets forth. There are no secret notes or understandings, he asserted.

Hughes Prepared Draft Discussing the genesis of the treaty, which has been the subject of questions in the Senate from its opposition. Mr. Hughes said that the "question of authorship is unimportant," after assent had been given by Great Britain and Japan that France should be a party, he himself prepared a draft of the treaty. "The Secretary asserted the various suggestions which had been exchanged between the delegates."

"There is not the slightest mystery about the treaty or basis of suspicion regarding it," the Secretary asserted. "It is a straightforward document which attains one of the most important objects the American Government has had in view and is of the highest importance to the peace of the world and friendly relations in the Far East upon a sound basis."

"Real Treaty of Peace" Senator Underwood, addressing the Senate today in support of the Four-Power pact, described it as "the real treaty of peace of the Arms Conference." He said the treaty was the pact's ratification in the same spirit which actuated him to support the treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations.

The real issue, the Democratic leader declared, was whether the United States was ready to give its sanction to an arrangement for "peace by mutual understanding" or desired to continue "the opportunity for war that has threatened us in the last two decades."

Mr. Underwood asserted that he did not regard the treaty as an alliance, but declared that even if it were, it was founded on an arbitration rather than force, he would support it. To argue, on the other hand, that because it was not based on force it was valueless was declared by the Democratic Senator to be "averting to the philosophy of past ages."

Welcomes Peace Efforts Resuming his speech, he had supported the League of Nations and approached the work of the Arms Conference ready to welcome any new effort to establish peace by international understanding rather than by the power of the sword.

"The Four-Power treaty," he continued, "represents a political settlement which undoubtedly was necessary before the treaty providing for the limitation of armaments was signed; that is, if the agreement to limit armaments was intended to mean more than a mere saving of money to the nations who had engaged in the wild race of building battleships."

"The terms of the treaty clearly call for a conference to consider difficulties that may arise just as the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments was called in Washington some months ago. It is a conference in which all of the four Powers will be bound in advance in any way. In other words, the agreements that are reported must be by the unanimous consent of all."

"The opponents of the ratification of this treaty in the main appear to base their objections on two grounds, one pressing positions that are opposed one to the other. It is asserted that the treaty in effect is an alliance between the four great Powers for offensive and defensive purposes, or, at least, it is contended we will be drawn into that position in the end and that we may be forced into war without our consent."

"I maintain that there is nothing in the treaty itself that justifies such an interpretation being placed upon it by an agreement by a man or a nation."

Continued on Page Two, Column Four

RAIN TO CONTINUE

But Tomorrow Will Be Fair, Says Weatherman Continued rain today and fair tomorrow are the predictions of the weather man covering the next thirty-six hours. Temperatures will remain constant, and that is to say that a light overcast will be sufficient.

Despite the fact that storm warnings have been displayed along the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to the Delaware Breakwater, there is no sign of a repetition of the blizzard of '88, which began on March 12.