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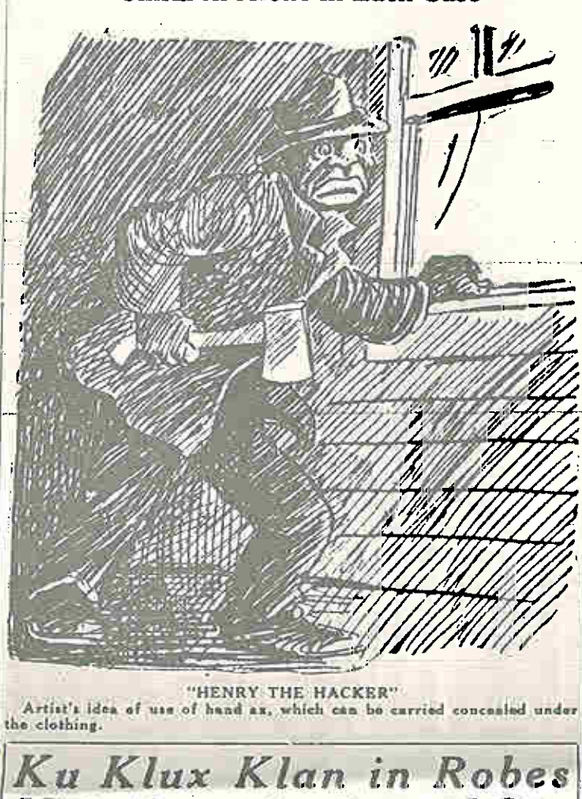
BY RECENT ACTS OF AX MANIAC

Similarity in Bloody Crimes Points to Same Fiend as Man Guilty of Deadly Series Here

"Henry the Hacker" Asks for Some Meal, Smashes Out Victim's Brains With Ax, Then Turns on Women But Leaves Children Alone in Each Case



"HENRY THE HACKER"

Artist's idea of use of hand ax, which can be carried concealed under the clothing.

While store keepers in outlying sections of Birmingham are cringing with fear that they may be the next victim of a series of gruesome ax murders, four of which have been committed, with five fatalities, within the past two months, the city is a hub-bub of excitement and alarm over the deeds of what most concede to be a negro maniac criminal who is still at large.

"Henry, the Hacker!"

That is the name which has been applied to the man who has practically claimed a victim a week through the fiendish method of beating the skulls of his victims with a blunt instrument, which in each instance is believed to be a hand-ax.

In the four recent cases starting first with the assault and subsequent death of George T. Ary on November 28, 1921, and the deaths of Joe and Susie Mantione and Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Crawford in December and January, a cycle of crimes has been committed very rarely paralleled in similarity except by the maniac deeds of such criminals as "Jack the Ripper" in New York and other large cities.

All Alike

In every case the nature of the wounds, the location of the bodies and the circumstantial evidences of the type of crime has shown the same cruel methods. The husband and wife have been attacked. The children have been unharmed.

Until Wednesday night when Tony Loreno was conscious enough after the "Henry the Hacker" had hit him, to recognize his assailant as a negro and to shoot at him first with a revolver and then a shotgun, the exact identity of the person involved was a mystery.

Since the first crime of November the theory has been it was a negro who made the assaults. The crimes were all committed in a section in which negro population was large, or

(Continued on Page Two.)

Ku Klux Klan in Robes Visit Negro Sections of City

In protest against the recent ax crimes of the city, members of the Ku Klux Klan, in white robes and cowls of the order, paraded the several negro districts of the city last night in automobiles.

Starting at Avondale at 8 o'clock, the white-robed pageant threaded its way from one part of the city to the other, visiting negro districts.

Activities of the mystic order lasted until 10 p. m. Several of the automobiles with Klansmen passed through the downtown district.

Undisturbed by officers or unhampered from any source, the Klansmen held the right of way wherever they went.

Chief Fred McDuff of the city police force stated yesterday that it had been suggested to him that activities of the Klansmen might be in order as a result of the recent series of brutal crimes.

OFFICERS COMB CITY IN SEARCH OF AX WIELDER

Man With Crime Record Perpetrator of Murder Is the Theory of Police—Several Arrests Made

Birmingham is being combed by the police in an effort to locate the axman who assaulted Tony Loreno and his wife, Rosa, at their combination grocery store and residence Wednesday night. While several negroes answering the description of the assailant given the police by Loreno have been taken into custody and investigations made, nothing definite has yet resulted.

The police are working on the theory that the assailant of Wednesday is the same one who killed Mr. and Mrs. Crawford on the night of January 10 in their grocery store less than three blocks away.

"The crime was undoubtedly committed by a man with a record," stated J. E. Jones, one of the detectives assigned to the case, "and the similar manner in which this and the Crawford case were planned and executed, leads to the belief that the assailant in both instances is the same."

Police records of crime waves wherein the crimes have marked elements of similarity, show that in the majority of cases they can be traced to the same person.

Tendency of Crime

"The very friendliness of the ax assaults convince me that they could have been committed by only a hardened criminal and one with a police record of long standing. The tendency in crime is to a gradual increase in the seriousness of the offenses committed and I believe that this man having committed one murder would not hesitate at another at the slightest opportunity.

"The sections of the entire city are being combed thoroughly and no stone is being left unturned to apprehend the ax fiend," said Chief Fred McDuff. "Every man with a police record is being watched, and any man to whom suspicion might point will be arrested and a thorough investigation made. We are working by the process of elimination and while it takes time the result is inevitable in the long run."

While the entire Birmingham police force is constantly on the alert for the would-be murderer, Officers C. E. McCombs, J. B. Jones, J. T. Moser and O. D. Brown, as a special detail, are concentrating their efforts on the case, in addition to numerous others that are being assigned from time to time.

Mrs. Loreno is expected to die almost any time, reports from the hospital state, as she has never regained consciousness once since the tragedy. The husband, while he is slowly improving, is still in a very critical condition. The three children, Francis 7, Vincent 4, and the baby, are being taken care of by relatives at East Thomas and Ensley.

AUSTRIAN MINISTRY FALLS

By Associated Press

Vienna, January 26.—The Schoeber ministry resigned today. The fall has been expected for some time and this, together with the great decrease in the value of the crown, has heightened the seriousness of the whole internal situation. The government fell on the issue of the Czech treaties, which provoked antagonism, the Pan-Germans breaking the working agreement whereby the ministry had maintained its majority.

MAJOR ULLMAN SPEAKS

Gadsden, January 26.—(Special.)—At a meeting held at the First Methodist church last night Maj. M. M. Ullman of Birmingham, addressed the Jewish relief meeting for Etowah county on the horrors of the European countries, where the Jewish people are starving to death. Chairman Blum announced his committees for the drive, and they will meet at the Hotel Printup next Monday night, at which time the remainder of the committees will be announced and the date set for the drive to commence.

Six Millions for Barge Lines Asked in Brent's Report

By HUGH W. ROBERTS
Washington Bureau, The Age-Herald, 500 Davidson Building.

Washington, January 26.—(Special.)—Theodore Brent, in charge of the operation of the government's barge lines on the Mississippi and Warrior rivers, has asked for an appropriation to cover the expenses of the service for the current year amounting to $6,000,000.

The request is contained in his annual report. While the report has not been made public, it is understood that of the appropriation asked for nearly $3,000,000 will be devoted to the Warrior river.

DELEGATES ARE OPTIMISTIC OVER SHANTUNG ISSUE

Chinese and Japanese Clearing Away Collateral Questions—To Meet Formally Saturday Morning

By Associated Press

Washington, January 26.—The machinery of the Washington conference virtually came to a standstill today while the delegates awaited results from President Harding's move for a settlement of the Shantung controversy.

Optimism over the outcome of the President's efforts gained ground in every quarter, and the belief was unanimous that the few remaining major issues of the conference could well be delayed for examination in a clearer atmosphere after the most troublesome of all the far eastern problems is out of the way.

Outwardly, the Shantung problem itself was in a waiting stage, too, although important moves were taking place behind the scenes in Peking, Tokio, and Washington. The Japanese and Chinese announced they would not meet before Saturday, at the earliest, to consider formally the latest settlement proposal.

Collateral Issues

As if preparing for the announcement of a complete agreement, however, the plenipotentiaries of the Tokio and Peking governments today cleared away the last remaining collateral issues of the Shantung negotiations and agreed to meet Saturday morning to begin the drafting of a treaty. Only the central problem of the Tsingtao-Tsinanfu railroad, to which the compromise proposal supported by President Harding, is directed, now remains unsettled.

The Shantung meeting and a session of the drafting subcommittee at which the Chinese radio resolution of December 7, was reaffirmed after agreement on additional declarations had failed, constituted the sum of formal conference activities during the day. The December 7 resolution provides for cancellation of unauthorized wireless concessions in China, while the proposed additions would have directed future development of the Chinese wireless system. It was decided to enter these rejected propositions on the conference record as representing individual viewpoints.

German Cables Treaty

Meantime another conference drawback disappeared when the Italians made known their readiness to assent to the six-power treaty allocating the former German cables in the Pacific on the assurances of conference leaders that Italy later would be supported in her claim to a share in the cable lines formerly controlled by Germany in the Atlantic. Completion of this treaty, dividing the Pacific lines between the United States, Japan and The Netherlands is expected within a few days.

As viewed by some of the delegates the cable treaty is virtually the only agreement of the Washington conference that is not in some degree affected by the log jam of which Shantung is the center. Should an agreement over the former German leased territory fail, it is conceded generally that the effect would be far-reaching on the whole far-eastern situation, and through that medium, in turn, on the naval agreement and the four-power Pacific treaty.

Few Points Unsettled

Just how narrow has become the difference remaining between the Japanese and Chinese over Shantung is not revealed, but all outward signs tonight indicated that only one or two points of the railroad tangle remained to be settled.

While the Japanese have made no formal expression, it is understood they are disposed to accept the deferred payment plan of the last compromise project in place of the loan on which they have insisted heretofore. China, on her part, is said to be ready to agree also to the deferred payments, although the terms for which her treasury notes are to run is another question.

KENNAMER GETS NOMINATION FOR PETTUS POSITION

Will Appoint Sam Bowman of Birmingham First Assistant, According to Washington Reports

By HUGH W. ROBERTS
Washington Bureau, The Age-Herald, 500 Davidson Building.

Washington, January 26.—(Special.)—The President today nominated Charles B. Kennamer of St. Clair county to be district attorney for the northern district of Alabama.

The resignation of the incumbent, Erle Pettus of Birmingham, effective January 1, has been in the hands of the President since December 1.

Mr. Kennamer was a candidate for

MINERS' RELIEF HEARING IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 2

Clemo Gathering Detailed Data on Alabama Conditions for Presentation Before Committee

By HUGH W. ROBERTS
Washington Bureau, The Age-Herald, 500 Davidson Building.

Washington, January 26.—(Special.)—The House committee on mines and mining will conduct open hearings on the bill of Representative Thomas of Kentucky providing an appropriation of $500,000 for destitute miners and their families February 2, it is announced today.

According to Representative Bank-

GIST OF THE NEWS

GENERAL

ALABAMA SENATO CRITICIZES FARI PARLEY IN SPEEC

Administration Fighing Ag cultural Bloc, Heflin Say Wannamaker Favors Gov ernment Price Fixing

By Associated Press

Washington, January 26.—[illegible] mediate steps to re-establish [illegible] value of farm products on a par ity with those of other commodi ties was asked of Congress and President Harding tonight by the national agricultural conferenc through the unanimous action o a resolution to that effect. Th resolution was contained in a re port from the marketing committee and members said its adoption meant that "something must b done by the President and Con gress immediately."

Washington, January 26.—The [illegible] tional agricultural conference, af a day marked by several address and action on the recommendatio of a number of committees, mat night to take up the report of marketing committee.

A sharp debate on governmen price fixing for agricultural commo ities was expected to develop duri consideration of this committee's port, advocates of the plan, defeat in committee having announced th intention of carrying their argume to the floor of the conference.

The conference today also ente discussion in the Senate and at t hearing of the Senate agricultu committee on the Ladd price stabi sation bill.

Senator Heflin, democrat, Alaban in the Senate expressed hope that t conference would result in some go and criticized the selection of its de gates. The whole administration declared, "from the President down is losing no opportunity to ram t congressional agricultural plan, whi was unanimously indorsed today the conference.

LaFollette Speaks

Senator LaFollette said that cond tions was the inevitable result forcible deflation brought abo through control of the nation's cred by the will of a few great financie and could not be "cured by the re sults of any conference."

Senator Norris, U. S. Senate agricultural committee member, J. S. Wannamaker of South Carolina, a del gate to the conference, declared agriculture could be saved from bankruptcy only through government fixing of prices for cotton, corn a wheat. He agreed with Senator Pag republican, Vermont, that fixed mi mum prices could not be maintain without embargoes barring imports these commodities, and he estimat it would cost the government more than $500,000,000 in purchasin farm commodities to stabilize price

Wallace Opposes Price Fixing

In a conference with newspape men later in the day, Secretary Agriculture Wallace voiced opposit to price fixing, which he said wou prove ruinous to the farming indu try. He declared he favored plans restore the purchasing power of t farmer's dollar to a parity with th in other industries.

The conference today took up com mittee recommendations and resoli tions immediately after hearing series of addresses by R. A. Pearso president of the Iowa State Colleg of Agriculture and Mechanical Art Dr. E. D. Hall, director of scientifi work of the department of agricul ture; Richard E. Ely, professor economics of the University of Wis consin, and Gifford Pinchot of Penn sylvania.

The resolution offered by the com mittee on agriculture and price re lations, which included the indorse ment of the "agricultural bloc" i Congress, coupled with this commen dation of President Harding and Sec retary Wallace for their action i making possible and calling the con ference. This resolution was adop ed unanimously.

BIG FIRE LOSS

By Associated Press

Wilmington, N. C., January 26. The building and entire stock of J. M. Solky & Co. clothiers, was de stroyed by fire tonight that for tw hours threatened the principal bus ness section. The loss was estimate at $125,000.

My Favorite Stories

By IRVIN S. COBB

The Custom of the Country

The English have the credit for being a conservative race—a breed in which respect for traditions is so strong that they hesitate to change anything which has behind it the merits of antiquity and established comfort. The story which follows—it may or may not be true—would tend to indicate that this trait really does persist in our Anglo-Saxon cousins.

The tale, as it was told to me, had it that through the fields between two villages in Sussex ran a footpath. It was not the quickest route for one going from one of the hamlets to the other, for it wandered about, but it had been traced originally by the horny, naked feet of Saxon serfs, and now was worn down into the turf by the feets of countless generations. Everybody in the neighborhood used it, because everybody always had.

day and night. Associated Press [illegible] patches seven days a week.