

# The Daily Gate City.

THE WEATHER.  
Probably. Showers. Colder  
Local temp—7 p. m. 42; 7 a.  
m. 37.

KEOKUK, IOWA, FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1914

TEN PAGES

THE PAPER THAT BOOSTS KEOKUK ALL THE TIME.  
Subscribers of The Daily Gate City are served the full Leased Wire Service of the United Press Associations.

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## HOUSE OF MYSTERY IN WHICH WOMEN DISAPPEAR

Private Hospital Furnace Said to be Used to Cremate Those Who Died in the Building.

DOROTHY ARNOLD THERE

Attorney Keith Visited Lonely House Overlooking the River, But Found no Clue.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 10.—With further arrests in prospect, startling disclosures were expected today in the case of Dr. C. C. Meredith and his associates, who were arrested in a raid on that physician's private maternity hospital at Bellevue, long known hereabouts as the "house of mystery." In the big, isolated institution on a high bluff overlooking the river, many women met a gruesome fate, according to a confession subscribed to Dr. H. E. Lutz, one of those under arrest and fully credited by District Attorney R. H. Jackson.

The victims probably numbered a score. They may have been more, according to Dr. Lutz and among them he said was Dorothy Arnold, New York heiress, who disappeared mysteriously in 1910.

Although it was a legal holiday in the state, both the district attorneys and chief of detectives, E. E. Clark were early at work upon the case. And both were sanguine that the disappearance of the perfume importer's daughter would be fully and finally explained together with the dropping from sight of other women.

According to the alleged Lutz confession, several Pittsburgh physicians acted as "feeders" for the hospital, sending to Meredith for illegal operations, women who came to them. In a number of cases when complications resulted and were followed by death, the remains of victims were heartlessly consigned to the monster furnace in the basement, according to Lutz.

Meredith was held today in \$12,000 bail on charges of performing an illegal operation and larceny. Miss Lucy Orr, alias Lucy Dammis, head nurse, and his alleged chief assistant, and Miss Mary Snyder, a nurse, were also in custody. The specific charge against Meredith is that he performed an illegal operation upon Mrs. Myrtle Allison, of Wilkesburg, near here, a year ago.

Lutz declared that he sent Mrs. Allison to Meredith. Lutz, declaring that he was almost a wreck as the result of his part in the support of the hospital, described Meredith as a fiend, apparently obscured by love of brutality.

Some time after sending Mrs. Allison to Meredith, Dr. Lutz asked Dr. Meredith where she was. Meredith, he declared, said she was dead.

"Well, doctor, don't you think this is dangerous work?" Lutz claims to have asked Meredith.

"Well," Lutz says he was told, "there was a certain party that came to me from New York and was traced as far as my office. It was Dorothy Arnold."

When asked what had become of her, Meredith was said to have motioned skyward with both hands, indicating, Lutz declared, that she had been cremated. Pressed for an answer as to the fate of Mrs. Allison, Meredith made similar gestures. Lutz said he had witnessed cruel treatment of Mrs. Allison by Meredith when the woman was removed from Lutz's office to Meredith's ambulance.

He literally threw her into the ambulance and called her a vile name. Lutz said, and when she moaned that she would like her mother sent for, Meredith assured her with a brutal laugh:

"Oh you'll see your mother soon enough, all right."

District Attorney Jackson smiled at the report from New York to the effect that John Klith, attorney for Francis Arnold, father of Dorothy Arnold had come to Pittsburgh unknown to his employer and investigated the report that the missing heiress was at the Bellevue institution. "Lutz has come through and told us everything," said Jackson.

"We have evidence that Dorothy Arnold was traced right to the door of Meredith's downtown office in the Schmidt building. We have learned enough already to convince us that in this raid we have broken up one of the worst places in the country. It is too early yet to tell just what will be revealed about Dorothy Arnold's fate by the arrests.

Strange things were found by detectives searching the "house of mystery" today. Among the belongings of Miss Orr, head nurse, was found a red wig and a complete set of face colorings. In the closet was found a complete set of instruments. They were covered with a pile of old clothes. A secret path over which patients were said to have been taken to the house was discovered. Ashes in the basement and the earth in a stone walled pit will be examined for traces of bone dust and quick lime.

Did Not Find Dorothy.  
NEW YORK, April 10.—Full details of a search of Pittsburgh's "house of mystery" the Bellevue sanitarium, whose proprietor Dr. C. C. Meredith is under arrest there as possibly responsible for the deaths of women, were given to the United Press here today by John Keith, who personally went through the mysterious sanitarium on a search for Dorothy Arnold, the missing New York heiress.

Keith, despite reports to the contrary from Pittsburgh, is still firmly convinced that Miss Arnold was not in the "house of mystery" at least at the time of his visit.

He declared that before his presence in the vicinity was known, he had posted two detectives, one on each side of the lonely house on the bluff above the Ohio, and he believes that the girl he sought could not have been spirited away without their knowledge.

From admissions made to him by the doctor in charge, Attorney Keith said he had no doubt there was much about the house which the physician desired to conceal.

"I was first led to Pittsburgh," Keith said, "by a letter from a prominent lawyer of that city. Writing to me as the attorney for the Arnold family while the search for Miss Arnold was still fresh, he declared a woman there, was certain that Miss Arnold was there in a sanitarium near the city. Arriving in Pittsburgh I went to the office of my correspondent.

"Where is the woman who knows where Miss Arnold is?" I asked. "Can you bring her here?"

## CONFESSES GUILT OF THE MURDER

Robert Higgins Admits in Court That He Shot and Killed Wife.

SENTENCED ON TUESDAY

Galesburg Man Will Probably Be Sent to the Penitentiary to Serve a Life Sentence.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] GALESBURG, Ill., April 10.—Robert Higgins, who murdered his wife last fall that he might continue his relations with his step-daughter, Julia Flake, daughter of the dead woman, was arraigned before the circuit court at Aledo this forenoon at a time when but few were present, and confessed that he killed the woman. He was represented by attorneys and, after the plea, the judge asked for the evidence in the case, that he might determine the punishment.

Julia Flake, now in the girls' state industrial school, and indicted as accessory, was not present and her hearing will take place later.

The confession of the girl and of Higgins were read to the court and were along the lines already familiar, and some other evidence was introduced. It will take probably several hours before the taking of evidence is concluded but the opinion prevails that Higgins will be given a life sentence. The hearing although marked by much solemnity, was devoid of sensational features.

The court postponed the sentencing of Higgins until next Tuesday. In examination, the attorneys for Higgins presented a number of letters found in the Higgins home and identified as those that Julia Flake had written Higgins. These pleaded with him to kill her mother and requested him to do it at certain times. Also they contained threats of suicide with carbolic acid and one of them requested that she die together.

In her confession, the girl also said that she had requested him to kill his wife, while Higgins in his confession represented that the girl had twitted him with cowardice because he had not killed her mother before when the arrangements had been made and when Higgins had procured his gun, but did not have the heart to discharge it.

The defense tried to shift the larger part of the blame on importunities of the girl. The state's attorney in his address asked for nothing less than a life sentence and said that he would be satisfied with nothing less than this.

PRESIDENT OFF ON VACATION

Party Reached Health Resort Early in Morning for Three Day Stay.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va., April 10.—President Wilson's week end respite from the canal tolls controversy, began here early today. The presidential party arrived from Washington so early that the leisurely West Virginia didn't turn out to greet the chief executive and his family. Only a handful of small boys and station loungers witnessed the arrival.

"Health and wealth"—the slogan of the Blue Ridge mountain resort, assailed the executive ere on every hand as the party disembarked from the private car.

"I hope I get both," the president said, smilingly. Golf and motoring will be the president's diversion until Sunday night when he expects to return to Washington. Among guests here who interestingly watched the presidential party here today were Mrs. John W. Gates of Minneapolis, Mrs. John Jacob Astor and her sister, Miss Katherine Force.

## ELECTROCUTED ON MONDAY

Gyp the Blood and His Three Pals Are Sentenced to Death Next Week.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, April 10.—Friends of "Gyp the Blood" Harry Harrowitz and the three other New York gunmen, sentenced to die next Monday in Sing Sing for the murder of Gambler Herman Rosenthal, planned today to make one more effort to save them from the chair.

Satisfied that all pleas for a reprieve to Governor Glynn are useless, the gunmen's well-wishers are expected to appeal to a justice of the supreme court for a stay of execution and a new trial on the ground of fresh evidence having been discovered.

Upon receipt of this report Coroner Hoffman drove at once to the Lunderback home to take charge of the investigation. Dr. Paul E. Kelly, Lunderback's personal physician, who attended him last night refused to make public his reasons for demanding an inquest.

Friends of the dead anacler said today that the defeat of a scheme for a "comprehensive subway" a Hearst-Harrison measure, in Tuesday's election, depressed him greatly. It was reported that Lunderback, who was formerly associated with Charles T. Yerkes in street railway enterprises in Chicago had invested large sums of money in real estate along the route of the proposed subway and expected to clear hundreds of thousands of dollars if the plan went through.

Lunderback stepped into prominence a year ago as the defendant in a sensational suit filed by Miss Agnes Sowka, a stenographer. He responded with a cross bill alleging he was the victim of an attempt at blackmail and the suit was later dropped.

For a time he was president of the Davenport and Rock Island railway. For several years he lived in a "house within a house," the most unique residence in Chicago. After erecting a three story house, he surrounded it by a shell of another house, the shell being constructed of plate glass and sheet iron.

After officials from the coroner's office had questioned members of the family, Coroner Hoffman ordered the inquest continued until April 17 at 2 p. m.

Deputy Coroner Hartney who accompanied the coroner's physician to the Lunderback home said he learned that several years ago Lunderback was accidentally shot while hunting and that the wound caused him great pain. Lunderback, he said, consulted specialists without avail and finally took up the study of medicine and experimenting with drugs in hopes he might cure himself.

LOCKED MESSENGER INSIDE A TRUNK

Two Masked Bandits Robbed Express Car of Valuables Worth \$3,000.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 10.—A posse was still searching early today for some trace of the two masked bandits who last night forced their way into a Rock Island express car as the train left Haakell, bound Messenger Ahring, locked him in a trunk and dropped off the train with money and valuables worth about \$3,000.

Express clerks here discovered the robbery when they went to check up the incoming packages. Ahring was faint from his confinement.

Prosperous Condition.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, April 10.—"I feel very comfortable over the general situation in the northwest which is as prosperous, if not more so, than any other section of the country," said James J. Hill, here today. "Business is at present quiet but good. There is a large acreage ready for spring planting and with a normal season, crop conditions will be entirely favorable."

Commenting on the rate reductions in Canada, Hill declared they would have no adverse effect on the Great Northern railroad.

Old Couple Murdered.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CALVIN, Ia., April 10.—A posse with blood hounds is today searching this parish for some trace of the robbers who murdered Samuel Chandler and wife, both over seventy and wealthy, before pillaging their farm.

## MYSTERY IN SUDDEN DEATH

Lunderback Lived in a House Within a House and Was Very Wealthy.

DIED FROM POISONING

Coroner Makes Investigation to Find Out Cause of Demise of the Real Estate Man.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, April 10.—Poison was found in the viscera of Delancey H. Lunderback, millionaire real estate operator and railway builder who died suddenly last night, according to a report made to Deputy Coroner Jones today by a coroner's physician who performed an autopsy.

Upon receipt of this report Coroner Hoffman drove at once to the Lunderback home to take charge of the investigation. Dr. Paul E. Kelly, Lunderback's personal physician, who attended him last night refused to make public his reasons for demanding an inquest.

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## WOMAN WAS A GOOD SHOT

Put Seven Bullets in One of the Bandit Band Who Attempted to Rob Saloon.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 10.—Fighting a desperate gun battle with three auto bandits, Mrs. Mary Galbos saved her husband's cash in a hold up here early today and perhaps fatally wounded one of the men before a bullet shattered her arm. The battle, in which over thirty shots were fired, occurred in the Cumberland avenue saloon of John Galbos, where the robbers had lined Galbos and several customers up before a wall, preparatory to looting the cash register.

Mrs. Galbos cautiously stole from a living room adjoining the saloon and calmly opened fire. She fired and reloaded rapidly and seven bullets from her revolver pierced the body of one of the men. He fell desperately wounded. Aided by the confusion, Galbos wielded a heavy chair and floored another of the men, as he fired at the intruder woman. The pistol went spinning, but the bullet struck Mrs. Galbos in the arm. The other robber escaped in a waiting taxi.

Police took charge of the two vanquished bandits. Mrs. Galbos was taken to a hospital. An examination of the wounded bandit at St. Alexis hospital showed three bullets pierced his body, three his head and one his leg. Surgeons say he cannot live.

RAIN ON EASTER FOR THE WEST

Weather Bureau Sends Warning Not to Wear the New Bonnet.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, April 10.—Folks in the northeast section of the country and in the middle west may not be able to wear their Easter finery Sunday—or if they do, it's an even bet they'll run chances of a snow or rain storm.

"That's the very best I can do," said Chief Forecaster Frankfield today. "There's a storm brewing out in Utah and my prediction for east of the Mississippi and above the Ohio will be 'unsettled,' either rain or snow with just the barest possibility of clearing up."

"In the south it will probably be clear and also in the southwest and northeast. The central valley territory looks due for rain."

Evolution of the Cockroach.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 10.—The theory that the cockroach is a mystery of evolution, brought into being with a modern flat, was smashed by Dr. S. W. Williston, of the University of Chicago, in a lecture here. Cliff dwellers 100,000 years ago, centered their deadliest insect powders on the four foot roach.

Parrot Named in Will.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, April 10.—Tommy, Dr. Celia M. Haynes' pet parrot, whose company the woman physician enjoyed for many years, will be cremated tomorrow and buried by the side of his mistress. Among other strange provisions in a lengthy will, Dr. Haynes provided for the parrot's cremation. She disinherited a cousin, she said, because she "did not care to contribute to the prosperity of saloonkeepers."

Gets Summer Job.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] OIATHE, Kansas, April 10.—Ex-Governor John P. St. John, of this city, yesterday received a telegram from the chairman of the constitutional amendments committee in California asking him to come at once and begin work at Long Branch and continue lecturing on prohibition throughout the summer. Mr. St. John has decided to accept.

Tampico Is Taken.  
VERA CRUZ, April 10.—Tampico was today believed to be in the hands of the rebels. After a fierce battle during which oil tanks were fired and burning oil floated on the river endangering other property, the constitutionalist forces are believed to have captured the city. The consular agent at Tuxpam wired Consul Canada here, declaring the city had apparently fallen. This could not be confirmed, but earlier reports had told of repeated rebel advances upon

(Continued on page 2.)

## REBEL VICTORIES AT ALL POINTS

Position of Mexico City is Becoming Serious and the Troops Are Massing

REBELS TAKE TAMPIOO

Bombardment of Oil Tanks Sets City Ablaze and the River is of Floating Fire.

[By a United Press Correspondent] MEXICO CITY, April 10.—With rebel victories reported from all points where constitutionalists have met government troops and the withdrawal of federalists from the state of Guerrero, the position of Mexico City was becoming serious today.

Troops are being gathered into the capital from points nearby. Preparations for defense are declared to be going on under cover. The number of troops now in the city is scarcely 4,000 and it is rumored the real reason for keeping the fall of Torreón secret, was to give the government an opportunity to bring additional forces into the capital.

Only rumors of fighting at Torreón continue to reach Mexico City but one of these reports declared that Raoul Madero, brother of the assassinated President Madero, was killed in the fighting before the city.

A federal loss which is as important strategically in the south as was the fall of Torreón in the north, was reported today. This was the evacuation of Guerrero. The federalists originally held Chippancingo, capital of the state. This city was evacuated and Aguila was occupied and made the provisional capital. They have now deserted Aguila.

Reports reaching here from Tampico declare that during the fighting there the customs office and store house were fired by rebels' shells and destroyed. The loss will reach \$500,000.

Fight by Oil Light.

METAMORAS, Mexico, April 10.—Fighting at Tampico was in progress late last night. The light of burning oil tanks made it possible to keep up the battle until a late hour, according to dispatches received here. Wire communication with Tampico was cut off at midnight. Many large steel oil storage tanks belonging to the Lord Cowdray syndicate and to American interests were destroyed and set fire to by bursting shells from the federal gunboats Vera Cruz and Zaragoza. The refinery of the Waters-Pierce Oil company was badly damaged. Property losses of foreigners already runs into millions. Many Americans and other foreigners are gathered in the six story steel and concrete office building of S. Pearson and Son, Ltd., and others in the Southern hotel. Dispatches received here do not indicate that the rebels have succeeded in making their way into the city.

Most of the damage to this property was done by the poor marksmanship of the gunboats. The rebels are making desperate efforts to block the entrance of Tamesis river and capture the gunboats.

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## YOUTH WAS FLYING HIGH AS ONLY SON OF FORD

Came to Grief When He Asked for Loan of \$15 From Hotel Clerk.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—As the result of a "bad break," Harry E. Ford, representing himself as the "only son" of Henry E. Ford, the millionaire auto manufacturer is in the coils of the police here today. A stylishly dressed youth had kept bell

hops and other attacks on the two step at hotel Stratford, smoked only the most expensive cigars and had no limit in the dining room. The breaking came when he ran out of money and asked the assistant manager to "fix him up with a voucher for about \$15 yesterday until father's mail arrived." When touched on the shoulder by a detective soon afterward, he almost collapsed.

According to police, several checks all signed with the name of the automobile manufacturer were found in the prisoner's possession. One check is for \$200 and others for smaller amounts.

Letters were Hoaxes.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—Several weeks search for a German farmer, the supposed author of two letters which stated that little Warren McCarrick had been kicked to death by a horse and his body buried by the frightened owner of the animal, having proved futile, detectives working on the case are today inclined to regard the letters as hoaxes. The seven-year old boy has been missing from his home for twenty-nine days. Many clues have recently come to light, but when run down all have proved without foundation.