



Dr. Wilkins Missing as Wife Murder Is Charged

Telephones From Railway Station to His Lawyer, Then All Trace Is Lost; Police Begin Search

Prosecutor Now Develops Motive

Has New Will Made by Victim Which Makes Husband the Main Heir to Her \$75,000 Estate

LONG BEACH, Long Island, March 17.—Justice of the Peace Cassius Coleman to-night, at the request of District Attorney Weeks, issued a warrant charging Dr. Walter K. Wilkins with the murder of his wife. The physician is a fugitive, and a general alarm was sent out to every police officer in the East to-night to arrest him on sight.

Mrs. Wilkins was killed on the night of February 27, when her skull was crushed by blows with a hammer outside her home here.

The physician has been suspected of the crime for the last week by the authorities. When the net of evidence drew closer on Saturday, and he realized after a long interrogation by Mr. Weeks that he was about to be taken into custody, he fled.

Vanishes After Telephoning Dr. Wilkins promised Mr. Fries in the telephone conversation that he would meet County Detective Plant at Lynbrook and go with him to the home of Mr. Weeks in Port Washington.

The object of this visit was to turn over to the prosecutor a new will made by Mrs. Wilkins in 1915. The attorney appeared at the home of Mr. Weeks and gave him the instrument, by which part of the murdered woman's property was given to the doctor.

This peculiar instrument, which may supersede the will found in the Wilkins home, which was drawn in 1903, was not signed by witness. Mr. Fries in a statement to Mr. Weeks denied that he had drawn it, and said that it was given to him by the doctor last Tuesday.

The will bequeaths the house owned by Mrs. Wilkins at 164 West Sixty-fifth Street to her husband and also her share in their Long Beach home.

In answer to the prosecutor's inquiry as to why the will had not been produced on Saturday when it was sought by the authorities, Mr. Fries explained that he did not consider it a valid will. He also asserted, according to Mr. Weeks, that the physician's papers had not been asked for, and therefore he withheld the document.

The authorities are now investigating to learn who witnessed the signing of the will and what prompted Mrs. Wilkins to make it.

Immediately after the discovery of this will Mr. Weeks directed the detectives working on the case to arrest Dr. Wilkins on a charge of murder. Mr. Weeks had sought a motive for the murder of Mrs. Wilkins continually during his investigation. The story told by the physician of the assault on himself and the murder of his wife by robbers was not believed by the prosecutor.

When Mr. Weeks was notified by operatives of the Burns Detective Agency this afternoon that they were unable to locate the physician, he issued the following statement: "Since the murder of Mrs. Julia Wilkins at Long Beach on February 27, 1918, this office has investigated and caused to be investigated the various clues presented by the physical facts in the case. We have also examined or caused to be examined all the witnesses who could furnish any evidence on the killing. It was not until yesterday, March 16, 1919, that we felt justified by the evidence at hand in ordering the arrest of any one. At that time the arrest of Dr. Walter K. Wilkins for the murder of his wife was practically decided upon. We were unable to locate Dr. Wilkins on Sunday, March 16, or to-day. A general alarm has been sent out for his arrest."

French Airman Is Flying Over Ocean, London Hears

LONDON, March 17.—It is reported among airmen that a flight across the Atlantic is now being attempted by a French lieutenant named Fontan. Lieutenant Fontan is reported to have started from the French-African port of Dakar, Senegambia, for Pernambuco, Brazil, by way of the Cape Verde Islands and the St. Paul Rocks.

Williams Quits As President of Robbed Bank

Resignation Is Declared to Have Been Caused by Change in Ownership

George B. Williams, president of the Cosmopolitan Bank, 803 Prospect Avenue, The Bronx, which was robbed of \$26,432.50 a week ago, has resigned. This was announced yesterday, following the arraignment in Morrisania court of Samuel Smith, paying teller, and three alleged accomplices. These were charged with robbing the bank's safe and were held in \$7,500 bail. All four pleaded not guilty.

Harold C. Steiner, vice-president of the bank, said Mr. Williams's resignation had been determined upon some time ago, when the bank changed hands. The board of directors requested it last Saturday.

"Did the robbery hurry up the request for Mr. Williams's resignation?" Mr. Steiner was asked.

"Yes," he replied. Reports current yesterday to the effect that an additional \$16,000, not yet made public, had been stolen from the bank, were denied flatly by Mr. Steiner.

"That is a lie," he asserted. "Tip" Given by Woman It was a woman employe of the bank, Mr. Steiner said, that first directed suspicion against the paying teller. She reported to the bank officials, according to the vice-president, that Smith seemed to be acting suspiciously. This brought about a long examination of the teller by detectives and the ensuing arrest of Samuel and Abraham Levitt and Frank Reynolds, a one-time employe of the bank.

District Attorney Martin of The Bronx said yesterday he would bring to the attention of the grand jury on Wednesday information regarding the \$16,000 which he says is reported to have been misappropriated.

Locksmiths and safe experts were busy at the bank all day yesterday, refitting doors and changing the combinations of safes. Mr. Steiner yesterday afternoon issued the following statement:

"The Cosmopolitan Bank was robbed on the morning of March 11 of \$26,000. On discovery of the theft the agents of Lloyds Company were notified, as also the American Bankers' Association. Owing to the fact that the theft could have been done only between 7 and 8 in the morning, it was thought a thorough search of the premises should be made, with the idea of perhaps finding the money concealed somewhere in the bank. On that account no immediate information was given to the police.

Police Work Complimented "All but \$3,000 of the money has been recovered. Detection of the thieves, and the recovery of a portion of the money, is due to most efficient work rendered by the Police Department in conjunction with the Pinkerton Detective Agency.

"When the new interests acquired control of the bank, it was with a view to increasing the capital to at least \$600,000. A new board of seven directors was elected at that time and will be shortly increased by the addition of well-known substantial business men.

"It was not contemplated that Mr. Williams would continue as president of the enlarged institution. Mr. Oscar Steiner is now chairman of the board, and in due course a president will be elected."

35,000 March As Irish Honor Patron Saint

Green Flags and Banners With Inscriptions Flout British Rule of Ireland

Self-Determination Urged Archbishop, Governor and Mayor Among Thousands That Line Fifth Avenue

Ireland's demand for freedom was expressed yesterday in one of the most spectacular St. Patrick's Day parades New York ever beheld.

Thirty-five thousand Irish marchers filled Fifth Avenue from Forty-third Street to 120th Street with a brilliant pageant of green banners, flags, shamrocks, harps, neckties, hats, parasols and placards denouncing British rule and demanding freedom for Ireland.

High above the heads of the marchers were flung, beside the Stars and Stripes, thousands of flags of the "Republic of Ireland."

"Follow the green line to Irish independence!" shouted one enthusiastic parader. His remarks evoked a chorus of sympathetic responses from spectators.

Several hundred thousand persons filled the sidewalks along Fifth Avenue and the side streets. Each of the 100,000 or more seats in the reviewing stand, which was erected for the 27th Division parade and which extends for almost three miles, from Sixtieth Street to 110th Street, was occupied.

The ages old significance of the day was suggested by the white hair of John W. Goff, former Supreme Court Justice. As grand marshal and as the recognized veteran leader of the Irish freedom movement in New York, he rode alone, seated high in the back of an automobile, his white hair shimmering in the sunlight as he doffed his hat to the thousands who cheered him.

Nature favored the paraders. Cloudy skies gave way to a brilliant afternoon. The prediction of Roderick J. Kennedy, the chairman of the committee on arrangements, that Irishmen would seize the occasion to give New York a demonstration of "the determination to keep up the fight for Ireland's freedom" was fulfilled, in so far as the number of paraders was concerned.

From the time the parade started at 3 o'clock until it had stretched its five-mile length along the line of march two hours later, not a marcher dropped from the ranks of any of the fifteen or twenty divisions.

Irish Freedom Propaganda Conspicuous in the parade were the

Under the provisions of the food conservation law, which went into effect December 1, the brewers have been making a 2.75 per cent beer, but were required by the Internal Revenue Bureau to de-alcoholize it to one-half of 1 per cent before being shipped for sale from the breweries. The brewers declare that no change in the manufacturing methods will be necessary to carry out their plans, and that if their standard of alcoholic content for a non-intoxicating is sustained in test suits, the 2.75 per cent beer will be made indefinitely, and will not be prohibited by the prohibition amendment.

Root-Guthrie Opinion The opinion was addressed to Christian W. Feigenspan, president of the United States Brewers' Association and a member of the board. It was signed by Messrs. Root and Guthrie. They said in part: "You instruct us that we may assume, as a matter of fact, that malt liquors which contain not to exceed 2.75 per cent of alcohol by volume, or 3.3 per cent by volume, are not intoxicating, and that this can be established by the evidence of experts and other competent witnesses.

"We are of opinion that the proclamations of the President dated January 30 and March 4, 1919, authorizing the use of grain and other food products in the production of malt liquors which are not in fact intoxicating, and that the act of November 21, 1918, does not apply to non-intoxicating beers.

"In our opinion the effect of the President's proclamation of March 4 is not limited to malt or cereal beverages containing less than one half of 1 per cent of alcohol by volume, assuming such beverage not to be in fact intoxicating; and there is nothing in such

Continued on page eight

Conferees Revising League Pact; French Willing to Put It in Treaty; Foe to Accept Only a Wilson Peace

Erzberger Warns Allies They Must Follow the President's 14 Points

Demands League With Referendum

Insists Germany Isn't Liable for Damage After 1916 Peace Bid

COPENHAGEN, March 17.—If the Allies loaded the peace treaty with conditions going beyond President Wilson's fourteen points, the German National Assembly would have to refuse its assent to the treaty, Matthias Erzberger, head of the German Armistice Commission, declared in an address at a Berlin meeting, in favor of the formation of a "real league of nations," according to a dispatch from the German capital to-day.

The matter then would be left to a referendum of the German nation, he said.

Disclaims All Obligation Herr Erzberger disclaimed any obligation upon Germany to give compensation for acts she committed after her first peace offer in December, 1918.

The speaker declared that the only means of calling a halt on Bolshevism was the abandonment of the "mailed fist policy of the Allies."

The German people, said Herr Erzberger, had almost unlimited confidence in President Wilson and he hoped that the league of nations covenant as promulgated on February 14 would not be finally adopted, as he declared, it was a compromise of the ideals of President Wilson with the imperialistic aspirations of some of the Allies. The American President, Herr Erzberger insisted, was under obligations to advocate the immediate admission of Germany to the league.

Refuses French Claims Herr Erzberger asserted that Germany was prepared to accept the vote of Alsace-Lorraine as to its future.

Continued on page three

War Clauses of Treaty Adopted

PARIS, March 17 (By The Associated Press).—The Supreme War Council resumed its sessions to-day with President Wilson in attendance for the first time since he returned from the United States. It was a distinguished assemblage of civilian and military chiefs, with Marshal Foch, Field Marshal Haig, General Diaz and British, French and American admirals, as well as President Wilson, the premiers and foreign ministers of the five great powers, with military and naval experts, bearing war maps and a diagram of and the actual draft of the military, naval, and aerial articles of the peace treaty, in attendance.

It was this draft which the council considered and adopted in the main, though a number of details still remain open. President Wilson agreed to all those features of the terms which Secretary of State Lansing and Colonel E. M. House had accepted at previous sessions. These include a General plan for German disarmament down to 100,000 men recruited by the volunteer system for twelve years, and a limitation on arms, munitions and other war stores, together with similar naval and aerial disarmament.

Allies Extend Lines Farther Across Rhine

French in Suburb of Frankfurt; British Bridgehead at Cologne Is Advanced

BERLIN, March 15 (By The Associated Press).—British and French forces, according to reports received here, have advanced their outposts from the limits of their present bridgeheads at Cologne and Mainz, respectively. The French are reported to have penetrated into the corporate limits of Frankfurt.

A special dispatch from Frankfurt to the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" says that the French, in advancing to Frankfurt, have occupied the Ridda bridge across the Main in the western part of the suburb of Rodelheim. The French are said to have posted notices saying that the passage was closed to all traffic.

Another report says that the authorities of Remscheid, northeast of Cologne, and Kronenberg, northwest of Cologne, have forwarded a protest to the German government at Weimar and also to the German armistice commission against the occupancy of the towns by British forces.

"The Daily Mail" of London on Saturday printed a dispatch from its correspondent with the British army to the effect that acute unrest prevailed in the whole Westphalian industrial region. The correspondent said that it probably would be necessary to enlarge the British bridgehead in that direction.

War Risk Crisis May Force an Extra Session

Secretary Glass Cables to Wilson That \$3,000,000 Is Needed to Run Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 17.—A financial crisis in the War Risk Insurance Bureau, caused by the failure of the last Congress to appropriate funds for its support, may oblige the President to summon a new Congress in the opinion of many political leaders.

Secretary Glass has cabled an account of the entire situation to President Wilson. He explained to-day that he had made no specific recommendation to Congress be convened to deal with the situation. He said he merely had presented "certain facts" in regard to the government's financial situation and had left the President to draw his own conclusions.

Other Cabinet members, it was learned to-day have cabled the President describing the serious conditions in their own departments, due to the Republican filibuster which brought the last Congress to a close with many financial measures still hanging fire.

Secretary Glass has asked Mr. Wilson to set aside more than \$3,000,000 from the Presidential war emergency fund to cover the cost of the continued operation of the War Risk Insurance Bureau for the next few months.

It is believed here this appeal will be vain, as the entire Presidential fund has already been pledged to other objects. If money is not made available in some way the operations of the bureau are certain to be greatly hampered.

Officials of the bureau are said to-day to have sufficient money on hand to cover allotment and allowance checks to be sent out during March and April. The \$2,000,000 or more asked from the President is not for the actual allotment checks. Half of the money for these comes direct from the soldiers' pay and turned over to the bureau by the War Department.

Funds for allowance checks are running short, however, and the actual running expenses of the department are extremely low. There are 15,000 employes on the bureau's payroll which amounts now to more than \$1,000,000 a month.

West Virginia House Votes Against League

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 17.—The House of Delegates to-day by a vote of 32 to 26 adopted the Wyson resolution putting that section of the Legislature on record as opposed to the league of nations in so far as the United States ever becoming a member of such a league. The vote was taken after an hour of debate in which, with one exception, Republican members spoke in favor of the resolution and Democratic members opposed it.

J. H. Hobbs, of Summers County, a Republican, declared he and his constituents favored a league of nations. Delegate Hobbs and Delegate Joseph Williams, of Pleasant County, were the only two Republicans who voted with the twenty-four Democrats in opposition to the resolution.

Democratic members who spoke against the resolution, declared that even though the majority of the members of the House might be opposed to the league of nations constitution as it stands, the resolution in opposition to any kind of a league was premature and should not be passed.

Bonar Law Denies League Caused Hitch

LONDON, March 17.—Andrew Bonar Law, government leader in the House of Commons, told the body to-day that to the best of his belief to-day there was no foundation for the report that a hitch had occurred in the presentation to Germany of the draft of the peace terms because of divergencies of opinion on the subject of the league of nations.

House, Cecil, Bourgeois Consulting Neutrals in Redrafting Covenant

Changes Reported Of Minor Nature

New Draft Expected To Be Ready by a Week From Saturday

By Frederick Moore

PARIS, March 17.—Colonel House, Lord Robert Cecil and Leon Bourgeois are revising the covenant of the league of nations.

They expect to conclude the new draft a week from Saturday, after which it probably will be made public. The representatives of the neutral nations are being consulted daily on the alterations, which will not be serious and insufficient, it is believed, to obtain ratification by two-thirds of the Senate at Washington when incorporated, as President Wilson insists, in the body of the peace treaty.

Expect to Include League M. Clemenceau and M. Pichon have informed the American delegation that, despite M. Pichon's remarks yesterday, they are not averse to the incorporation of the league covenant in the preliminary treaty, and Mr. Balfour and Lord Robert Cecil have given similar indications.

The American delegation is, therefore, driving ahead with the plan to incorporate the completed covenant in the treaty, although it may be as an appendix instead of following the preamble.

Although President Wilson probably will realize his desires in this matter, the quick conclusion of the draft of the treaty with Germany will not be forthcoming unless the President makes numerous compromises.

Wilson Confers With Allied War Council On Terms for Peace

PARIS, March 17.—The Supreme War Council met to-day from 3 to 7:30 p. m. and discussed the military, naval and aerial terms to be imposed on Germany," says the official statement. "At the end of the meeting, an exchange of views took place on the situation in Poland as described by the Inter-Allied Commission. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday at 5 p. m."

Points which were introduced at to-day's session of the Supreme Council, but on which no agreement was reached, proposed leveling the fortifications of the Kiel Canal and Helgoland and the disposition of the German warships.

President Wilson attended the session of the Supreme Economic Council to-day and later went to the Supreme Council meeting.

At its Economic Council session, in addition to the President, there were present Bernard M. Baruch, Vance McCormick, General Tasker H. Bliss, Admiral Benson, Herbert C. Hoover and other American specialists.

Aeronautics Board Named The Supreme Council to-day appointed a commission on aeronautics. The American members of the commission will be Rear Admiral Harry S. Knapp and Brigadier General Mason M. Patrick.

The council named Belgium, Greece, Portugal, Brazil, Cuba and Rumania as the Belgian delegation, and M. Damila, of the Italian delegation.

The ports and waterways commission, which met to-day, was addressed by the delegates of Switzerland, who explained the legal and technical reasons which led Switzerland to claim participation in any convention in the future governing the Rhine navigation.

Another Case of "Three Thousand Miles Away"



'Old 69th' Gives Germany Real Irish Day

By Wilbur Forrest (Copyright, 1919, New York Tribune Inc.)

REMGAN, March 17.—Father Duffy's celebration of mass at an improvised altar overlooking the Rhine this morning for the entire 165th Infantry (the old 69th), was only the beginning of a unique celebration of St. Patrick's Day on German soil.

The entire regiment of New York Irish fighters knelt in religious devotion, and then after the mass flung themselves into spirited track competitions, while the German civilians looked on wondering what it was all about.

Baseball between teams of officers and men was on the afternoon programme. There were special St. Patrick's Day dinners for every company. Afterward the men went to shows, while the officers attended a big dance under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus, which wound up the celebration.

Continued on page eight

YOU WILL FIND THE STEARNS KNIGHT at 12 Central, 10th St. W. N. Y. and see it in the wonderful world.