

FLOODA POSTMISTRESS, HELD IN SLAYING, WRITES POETRY IN JAIL

MISS CLARKE NOW UPON TRAIL OF BANKER

Missing Financier Said to Have Been Intimate Friend of Clarke Woman.

ORLANDO, Fla., Aug. 8.—Telegrams and letters from friends who express confidence in her innocence continued today to pour in on Miss Lena M. T. Clarke, former postmistress at West Palm Beach, Fla., who is held in jail here on a charge of murdering Frederick A. Miltimore, Orlando restaurant proprietor. She spends most of her time at a tiny typewriter set her by one of these friends, writing letters and occasionally poetry.

Money From Elwell. Little excitement was caused here by a statement Miss Clarke is said to have given Sheriff Karel, in which the name of Joseph Bowne Elwell, New York sportsman who was mysteriously slain, was brought into the story.

The statement had been promised by the sheriff several days ago and contained no facts that had not previously been touched upon. As for the Elwell angle, it only speaks of him as having loaned Miss Clarke money with which to cover a shortage several years ago. This money, she said, was paid back, after which she covered and kited accounts in her postoffice to hide the thefts.

Questioning of the banker, who was a friend of Miss Clarke, is now regarded by the police as having an important bearing on the case. All of today this community was agog with discussions of the dual personality of the pretty postmistress, who, through her confession, revealed herself as a feminine Jekyll and Hyde.

Lena Mary Thankful Clarke, if you please, is a queer combination—a bundle of contradictions. In personal appearance and dress she is far from a business figure in heavy and unbecoming and her clothes smack of the backwoods.

Her shoes are generally without heels and her stockings of cotton. Her skin is very fine in texture but covered with large, disfiguring freckles. Miss Clarke's only assets in appearance are her hair, which is decidedly auburn and naturally wavy, and her eyes, a deep blue in color and absolutely straight and unwavering in their gaze. She has cultivated a habit of a straight and steady look, believing it necessary to give the impression of a winner in dealing with human nature.

Miss Clarke is a firm believer in the power of will. She informed the post office inspector when he confronted her with supposed knowledge that her shortage was known to him, that it was a question of his will against hers and that hers was the master mind, defying him to place the blame on her.

Charitable Nature. Miss Clarke was a generous contributor to worthy charities—local and national; a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and of a church society for young people, whom she banqueted on Monday prior to her trip to Orlando. She quite frequently played for money at the club, where her family regularly attended services, and generally was looked upon as a woman of strong religious beliefs.

The only time Miss Clarke ever appeared before the press in any capacity was when she was turning the last Seminole sun dance, a festival held each March in Palm Beach, when she took first prize on the night of phantasmagoria as bridegroom in a wedding party in which the Farmers' Union, under Governor Catts' administration, was dressed as the bride.

Knowing her tendencies to avoid society and taking into consideration that she could lay small claims to personal attractiveness, people have marvelled at the reported revelings in which whiskey played an important part.

Little old Grandpa Collins, caretaker of the J. E. Chambers home, No. 323 South Pine street, where \$6,700 of the missing post office funds were found in a "studio" maintained on the top floor by Miss Clarke, characterized the woman as a crank on cards.

A Fortune-Teller. Every time she came into the house, Grandpa Collins said, she would sit down and cut the cards and tell fortunes. He said: "I used to tell her that some of the fortunes she told were bound to come true because she told so many of them."

The name of Frederick A. Miltimore and Lena Clarke were connected in an unpleasant way eight or nine years ago and Miltimore left the post office. Later he became again an employee of the post office and a candidate for the office of postmaster, for which Miss Clarke also was a candidate.

Miltimore accused Miss Clarke of irregularities in the office, but the affair was hushed up. She lost out in the race for postmaster and J. D. Arkley was named. He named Miss Clarke as an assistant because of her fifteen years' service. Upon Arkley's resignation early in 1920, Miss Clarke became acting postmistress and later was appointed to the post.

Rev. T. A. Clarke, father of Miss Clarke, who is founder of a correspondence course in theology taught by an Atlanta seminary, declared today: "The law of man may declare our daughter a robber and a murderer. But in the sight of God and her aged father and mother she is as innocent as a new-born babe."

BELIEVES SLAYER OF HER FATHER INSANE

Postmistress at West Palm Beach, Fla., is subject to hereditary insanity



Belief that Lena Clarke, former postmistress at West Palm Beach, Fla., is subject to hereditary insanity was expressed by Miss Naomi Miltimore, daughter of W. M. Miltimore, whose murder Miss Clarke is said to have confessed at Orlando, Fla. Miss Miltimore passed through Jacksonville, Fla., en route to Orlando from Chicago to attend her father's funeral.

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ALASKA WENT DOWN WITH 44; 166 RESCUED

Shipper Dies at Post—Heroism Writ Large as West Coast Liner Hit Reef.

By International News Service. EUREKA, Cal., Aug. 8.—Again has the rock-studded, reef-strewn, fog-clouded coast of northern California taken heavy toll of life. And again has an epic of sea heroism been written in the annals of the Pacific.

Today the horrors of Saturday night, when the steamship Alaska, hit the treacherous Blunt's reef, slid off, shivered as if in mortal agony and then plunged beneath the cold waters of the north Pacific, were remembered recounted with varying degrees of emotion.

44 Believed Lost. The Humboldt county coast has added to her already long list a fresh harvest of possibly forty-four lives, according to figures of the Portland and San Francisco Steamship Company.

Written brightest in the high lights of the disaster are the names of three—Capt. Harry Hobbey, of the Alaska; Mrs. Grace Campbell, stewardess of the same ship, and Captain Snoddy, of the rescue ship. Passengers and crew are awesomely repeating today the megaphone words of Captain Hobbey, as he mounted the Alaska's huge "I am going down with this ship, but if you do what I tell you nobody will go down but myself," he shouted.

He went down with his ship, in the cool direction undoubtedly was due the partially successful clearing of the ship.

No less courageous was the conduct of stewardess Grace Campbell. The women and children were guided and in cool direction undoubtedly was due the partially successful clearing of the ship.

And the third hero, Captain Snoddy, shares his distinction with his crew. Captain Snoddy, of the Anox, performed a miracle of the sea in reaching the scene of the wreck and taking from the oil and wreckage strewn waters 166 souls. Every boat and raft that had been launched from the Alaska was picked up, and in addition the sea gave up its dead.

Today the search for the bodies of those who lost their lives was in progress. Hundreds watched along the rocky shores of Cape Mendocino for the bodies of those who were recovered early today and thirty-six persons were reported missing.

Only a partial list of the victims of the disaster is available as yet. Among the known victims were: Thomas Johnston, Brooklyn; E. Pickall, Hubbard, Ore.; A. N. Hutchinson, Portland, Ore.; S. Kumazawa, a stevedore passenger, and the following members of the crew: Chief Steward Hesse; Steward F. K. King, Frank Comm, Ralph J. Mock, and an engine hand named Larsen.

130,000 KILLED BY CHOLERA IN LAND OF LENIN. Horde of Million and a Half Famished Russian Refugees Reach Polish Border.

By International News Service. LONDON, Aug. 8.—Cholera deaths in Russia to the end of July totaled 130,000, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen today quoting reports received there from Riga.

Refugees Traveling. By MARLE C. REEVES. International News Service. LONDON, Aug. 8.—A million and a half of famished, disease-ridden Russian refugees are pouring into the Pink and Brest-Litovsk districts of White Russia, near the Polish frontier, according to F. L. Thompson, an American relief worker, who arrived here today. The Russian refugees are arriving at the rate of 2,000 daily. They are in terrible condition, especially the children.

QUAKERS URGE PRESS AID FOR DISARMAMENT. PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—In the old Quaker Meeting House from which William Penn issued his first appeal for universal peace, the Philadelphia quarterly meeting of the religious Society of Friends passed a message to the press of America to help the international disarmament conference called by President Harding to abolish the causes for wars.

ISOLATE TOWN FROM FIRE. GENEVA, Aug. 8.—Troops and firemen yesterday dug trenches and felled trees to save Port Ecluse, where tons of gunpowder are stored, and Collonge and other villages, from a forest fire which swept down the northern slopes of the Jura Mountains.

STURDY OAK TREE SAVES FIVE GIRLS FROM DEATH. UNIONTOWN, Aug. 8.—Only a sturdy oak, which had grown on the side of the mountain, about fifteen feet from the National pike at Point Lookout, saved the lives of five girls when an automobile crashed through the guard rail along the pike and headed directly toward the bottom of a sixty-foot cliff, the scene of several deaths.

BARON KORFF TELLS HOW AUSTRIAN DIPLOMACY WON. WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass., Aug. 8.—The story of how the political forces of Russia and Austria seemed for many years to turn upon the diplomatic maneuvers of the two countries in the Balkans and of how the cleverness of one man finally won for Austria, was told by Baron Sergius A. Korff, former deputy governor-general of Finland in his lecture before the institute of politics at Williams College today.

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NAVIGATOR SAVED THE RAILROADS, McADOO HOLDS

Message to Convention Significant of Leadership of Party, Says Hapgood.

By NORMAN HAPGOOD. William G. McAdoo, asked for a message to be sent to the trainmen who begin a convention in Toronto today, selects as his two related topics the railroad question and disarmament.

Just what he says it would not be proper to say until the message is made public. It will be printed in full in the next issue of "Labor."

The significance of the stand taken, however, can be discussed now. Since Mr. Wilson's retirement there is no doubt that Mr. McAdoo comes nearer to being leader than any other Democrat.

Senator Underwood is the one remaining outstanding candidate for the national leadership, but with the Republicans controlled by their conservative element it is hard to see how a Democrat who agrees with them on nearly every intense issue can lead against them.

Mr. Bryan will always retain a large and devoted following, but his views on finance and economics are too untechnical, too impressionistically moral, for him to lead in an era of difficult economic reconstruction.

Without going further into detail, I may say that Mr. McAdoo takes issue sharply on the foundation from which the railroad problem is being approached. The Administration and the administration forces in Congress treat the roads as having been wronged by Federal control—ruined, as Senator Lodge put it the other day.

MAN SHOTS WOMAN TWICE; THEN HIMSELF. NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—Mystery surrounds the cause of the shooting of Mrs. Josephine Krueger, thirty-nine years old, by Thomas F. McCarthy, thirty-three, a heavy engineering foreman. The shooting occurred as Mrs. Krueger was returning to her home in the Hendrick Hudson Annex, McCarthy is unconscious in Knickerbocker Hospital, unable to explain the mystery.

WANTS AID FIRST. Now it comes together, not to hear the other side of the wage dispute, but to hurry Government help before the public opinion wears off.

THE GOVERNMENT TOLD THEM TO MAKE A FINAL SETTLEMENT FOR ABOUT A THIRD OF THE CLAIMS OR GET NOTHING. The bank periodical observes: "In view of the fact that this offer is embodied in the terms of the new bill it is feared that any assumption of the mortgage issue will help to block its passage by Parliament without merely result in a protracted period of litigation with the Government."

PROTECT PUBLIC, HE SAYS. That "it is feared" is delicious. "It is hoped, at least, that before our American railroads finally walk off with the cake now offered them they will be forced by Congress to make a settlement of their claims."

HERE IS A CHANCE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE COMMERCE TO SHOW SOME STATEMANSHIP. Let it advocate the mortgage issue as the route it wants to take. That loan in itself is merely a step toward Government ownership.

BUT LET IT ACT FOR THE PEOPLE AT THE SAME TIME THAT IT ACTS FOR THE RAILROADS. The roads are the petitioners; they are begging for help. Before they obtain it they should be stopped from using the next decade or two to drag one belated claim after another before the Interstate Commerce Commission before Congress before the President, before the courts.

SEE NEW SPANISH CABINET. MADRID, Aug. 8.—The general opinion here is that Premier Alendalazar will remain in power, but that he will take with him a cabinet of moderate and conservative elements, which at present are not represented in the government.

FARMERS DIE IN RUNAWAY. OIL CITY, Pa., Aug. 8.—An automobile frightened the horse driven by John Lauffer, seventy-six, and Willie Hill, fifty, farmers of West Washington, Armstrong county, today, causing it to run away, throwing them out and causing their instant death.

DEATH RATE LOWER. LYNCHBURG, Va., Aug. 8.—The lowest rate in July, 34, was the lowest on record since the establishment of the vital statistics of the public welfare department. There were 70 births reported during the month.

LITTLE VIRGINIA GIRL WINS A FREE BICYCLE

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Miss Theresa Ebert, of Cherrydale, Va., is only ten years old, but she is known as a "hustler." As soon as the schools closed and her vacation began she started a canvass among her neighbors and got thirty-five new yearly subscribers for The Washington Times. They were quickly checked up and found to be "O. K.," and in return for her enterprise she received the brand-new, completely equipped \$60 bicycle you see in the above illustration.

L. & N. WANTS TO CUT BIG MELON. PETITION SAYS. Tells I. C. C. It Desires to Distribute \$53,000,000 as a Stock Dividend.

The Louisville & Nashville Railroad today asked the Interstate Commerce Commission for authority to issue \$53,000,000 of capital stock and to distribute dividend pro rata among shareholders.

This request was accompanied by a request for authority to execute and deliver first and refunding mortgages to secure various series of bonds.

The carrier also asked the commission for authority to issue Series A of these bonds, aggregating \$25,735,000 and to sell \$12,735,000 of them, holding the balance in the Treasury for future disposition.

The bonds to be issued will bear 6 per cent interest, payable semi-annually, and will mature April 1, 1923. They are redeemable at the option of the carrier on October 1, 1936, or on any interest date thereafter at 102 per cent of the full amount with accrued interest.

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HOUSE STARTS TODAY ON TASK OF TAX REVISION

Transportation Levies Receive First Attention—"Repeal or Reduce" Is Payers' Slogan.

By International News Service. The difficult task of deciding on repeal or reduction of taxes was started today by the House Ways and Means Committee.

Transportation taxes were among the first to be taken up. The taxes on railroads and steamships, freight and passenger, have given the committee much concern. Pressure for their repeal has been heavy and consistent.

Secretary Mellon recommended that the transportation taxes be cut in half for the fiscal year 1922-23 and removed totally during the fiscal year 1923-24. The committee hopes to be able to remove them altogether with the close of the present fiscal year. They yield over \$300,000,000 in revenue.

In connection with the repeal of these taxes the American Express Company asks the removal of the tax on its express business. The company denies it is an active or dangerous competitor of the parcels post, and charges that the latter has an advantage in carrier rates.

The Ways and Means Committee, however, does not look with favor on repeal of the express tax. Congressman Keller of Minnesota, who is urging a land value tax and opposes repeal of the excess profits and surtaxes, issued a statement criticizing the Ways and Means Committee for its tax revision plan. He warned the Republican party that it was riding to its destruction in the next election because of the policy of reducing taxes on those most able to pay and shifting the burden on those least able to pay.

WIFE JAILED AFTER HER HUSBAND IS SHOT. NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—Frank Desantes, a subway guard, is under arrest accused of having shot his wife three times yesterday in his home, in Brooklyn, because she refused to become reconciled to him. Although all the bullets struck the woman in the face, she was not seriously hurt.

The quarrel started several days ago when, it is said, Mrs. Desantes found a letter from another woman in one of her husband's pockets. She accused her husband of having anything further to do with him. He called yesterday to plead to be taken back, she said. According to one account, the husband insisted he could not live without her and offered the revolver to her, asking her to shoot him. After the shooting the husband attempted to turn the revolver on himself, Mrs. Martha Imbrilli, his wife's mother, said. She told that she threw herself on him and grasped the revolver, but that Desantes kept on shooting, the bullets going wild. Neighbors had Desantes pinned to the floor when Detectives Dwyer and Foy arrived and arrested him.

RAINBOW VETERANS TO HEAR OF OHIO METING. J. Bentley Mulford, newly elected national first vice president of the Rainbow Division Veterans, will report in full on the recent convention of the Rainbow men in Cleveland at the meeting of the District chapter tonight in the chapter dugout, 1004 E street northwest.

Due to the absence from Washington of both president and vice president, Edwin J. Stubbs and Elmer F. Neagle, this evening's meeting will be presided over by Ralph S. Kiefer of the executive committee. All local and transient Rainbow veterans are invited to attend.

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