

# M'NAMARA BROTHERS MAKE A CONFESSION!

Los Angeles Dynamiting Trial Ends  
Abruptly When Defense  
Surrenders.

DONE TO SAVE THEIR LIVES

James B. Doomed to Spend Remaining Days in Prison.

EASIER FOR HIS BROTHER

Admits Destroying the Iron Works and Will Get Fourteen Years.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 2.—James B. McNamara pleaded guilty to the charge of murder in the first degree in Judge Walter Bordwell's court yesterday. His brother, John J. McNamara, secretary of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, entered a plea of guilty to having dynamited the Llewellyn iron works in Los Angeles on Christmas day, 1910.

James B. McNamara's confession clears up absolutely the tragedy of the explosion and fire which at 1:07 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 1, 1910, wrecked the plant of the Los Angeles Times at First and Broadway and caused the death of twenty-one persons. For nineteen of these deaths the McNamara brothers were indicted and J. B. McNamara was on trial specifically for the murder of Charles J. Haggerty, a machinist whose body was found nearer than that of any other to the spot where the dynamite was supposed to have been placed.

Both men's sentences were set for Dec. 5, when it is expected District Attorney John D. Fredericks will ask for life imprisonment for James B. McNamara, the confessed murderer, and probably fourteen years for his brother. The men's lives are considered saved. The great contention that the Los Angeles Times was not dynamited is dead beyond resurrection or argument.

Last night as the two brothers sat together in the county jail refusing to see anyone or making a statement, an interest second only to the occurrence itself hung about the question with reference to James B. McNamara, "Why did he confess?"

To this opposing counsel gave the same answer. "He confessed because he was guilty and that's all there is to it," declared District Attorney Fredericks.

"He was counseled to confess because it was the only thing he could do in the opinion of counsel," said Attorney Clarence S. Darrow, chief of counsel. "I will say now that there was no other reason or motive in it. I've studied this case for months. It presented a stone wall."

Darrow's statement was made as looking squarely in the faces of the charges that the recent arrest of Burt H. Franklin, an investigator employed by the defense, and two others with him, might have precipitated a situation untenable save by confession of the prisoner.

"Negotiations have been on for

several weeks," asserted Darrow, and this was corroborated by District Attorney Fredericks. "We expected at one time that Jim would confess last Monday, but he did not," said Darrow.

A brotherly affection bordering on worship, it became known last night, brought James B. McNamara's confession. A desire to save his brother from the necessity of confessing anything at all held back day after day the word that would end the trial.

"Joe is not in on this deal," the pale-faced man reiterated with insistence born of one great idea. "I don't care what happens to me."

His state of mind was known to District Attorney Fredericks, who communicated about it continually with Attorney Darrow and Darrow's colleagues, Attorneys Lecompte Davis, Joseph Scott and Cyrus McNutt of Indiana. A solution finally was found in the proposition that John J. McNamara plead guilty to the dynamiting of the Llewellyn works for which he and Ortie McManigal jointly were indicted.

Exhibits of all kinds in connection with the case were conspicuous and the very steel beam upon which James B. McNamara was shown to have placed the dynamite bomb that wrecked the Times was exhibited to visitors. It was related that only a few nights ago a dynamite explosion was conducted by the state on the outskirts of the city in much the same way that the Times is believed to have been destroyed. Many a detail which hitherto would have been considered vital was talked about, but it lacked its importance in view of the confession of guilt in the court room yesterday.

Gas and dynamite both played their part, but dynamite started the trouble and caused the explosion proper—this was Attorney Darrow's explanation from his talks with the defendant.

"If I'd have seen any way out of it we would not have done it," said Attorney Clarence S. Darrow, after court.

"We've had it under consideration since a week ago Monday."

Attorney Darrow stood around the room after court adjourned and newspaper men crowded around him.

"I'm glad it's over with," said Darrow with a sigh. "We have been working on this for two weeks and it has been the greatest strain of my life. The Times building was blown up by James B. McNamara with nitroglycerine, to be sure, but the bomb touched off the gas and gas really did it."

"Did you have to wrestle hard with the McNamaras to get that admission?" he was asked.

"Somewhat; but the facts have been overwhelming. Every loophole was gathered in by the state. As far as I am concerned I felt that sooner or later it had to come. Things were happening in which big people were interested. The movement was impelling. They wanted the matter cleared up and feared further bloodshed unless we obliterated the incident from Los Angeles at once. Of course, I feel I have helped the McNamaras by getting them to plead in so far as they probably will not be sentenced to death. Life imprisonment will be meted out to James B. and John J. will

get off with a light sentence." "Do you think union labor will suffer?" asked a reporter of Clarence Darrow.

"Oh, it's just an incident in the evolution of things. Because one does wrong doesn't mean all the others are wrong. As a matter of fact, Jim McNamara did not mean to kill anybody. They have told me the whole story and it is substantially as it has been told in the press except I reiterate that there was really no criminal intent. It was meant as a scare to the Times and I doubt whether there was enough explosive to really do the damage that was done; but, of course, the gas helped. But the crime is the same no matter what the intent.

"Why didn't you wait until after Tuesday's elections?" Darrow was asked. "Don't you know this will hurt Job Harriman's chances to be elected mayor?"

"I know; but we could not take any chances. Maybe the state would have backed out of their agreement. Lives were at stake and I think we saved them."

"It was evidence gathered by the state of California that brought about this plea," Darrow said, when asked what means he believed to have been most effective. "That was evidence," he added, emphasizing the "was."

Attorney Joseph Scott of the defense told of the long argumentative sessions with James B. McNamara, in which counsel urged him to plead guilty.

"I'll plead guilty, all right," he finally agreed, "if you will leave Joe (J. J. McNamara) out of it."

"We can't do that," he was told. "It's both or neither. Maybe you will be hanged."

"Maybe I will," said James B., chewing.

"It won't be nice and it won't feel nice," said an attorney sharply.

"I don't mind hanging for the principle involved," said the man stubbornly, and many hours were spent convincing him that he best could serve his brother by allowing him to plead to the wrecking of the Llewellyn iron works.

The indictment against Ortie McManigal, indicted with J. J. McNamara in the case of the Llewellyn iron works, is still pending.

So far as it has been learned less than a dozen men knew when court opened what was going to happen.

Judge Bordwell did not betray his information but chatted with reporters about the possibility of night sessions. Malcolm McLaren, representative of the detective agency, who brought about the arrests, was denying a report that McManigal had refused to confess.

The eight sworn jurors and two talesmen passed for cause were brought to the court room at 3:05 to be discharged.

"The case," said Judge Bordwell, addressing them, "which you were called to try has come suddenly to an end. The defendant has pleaded guilty, so your valuable services will not be required."

The judge smiled and some members of the jury applauded.

"I want to tell you that I am absolutely confident that you men would have given this man a fair and impartial trial."

A summary of the day's happenings included the following incidents:

James B. McNamara pleaded guilty to having placed a dynamite bomb under the Los Angeles Times building in October, 1910, and causing the death of twenty-one persons.

John J. McNamara, secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, brother of James B. McNamara, did not enter a plea at this time to the indictment similarly entered against him for the Times explosion, but when he is arraigned next Tuesday it is virtually certain proceedings against him for this charge will be dismissed, as the state admits it has no evidence connecting John J. McNamara directly with this particular disaster.

John J. McNamara, however, pleaded guilty to the charge of having caused the explosion at the Llewellyn iron works in which no fatalities occurred.

District Attorney John D. Fredericks will recommend life imprisonment for James B., and ten years for John J., but Judge Walter Bordwell, alone can fix the sentences.

Ortie E. McManigal, who confessed to have actually blown up the Llewellyn iron works here in December, 1910, at the direction of John J. McNamara, will be brought to trial, but it is expected the state will recommend a light sentence because he turned states evidence.

Bribery charges against Bert H. Franklin, a detective employed by the McNamara defense, probably will be dropped now as irrelevant to the main issue.

This completes the part of the state of California in the affair, but

## CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY

Smith and Spence Indicted by the Ringgold County Grand Jury.

WERE POLITICAL WORKERS

Said to Have Urged Girl to Drop Complaint Against J. W. Kelly.

Mount Ayr, Ia., Dec. 2.—Accused of having attempted to induce the prosecuting witness in a criminal case to leave Ringgold county, R. H. Spence and A. I. Smith, two of the most prominent attorneys of this section of Iowa, have been indicted by the grand jury on a charge of conspiracy to obstruct the administration of public justice. Named in the bill with them are George W. Kelly and C. B. Braze.

It is alleged that the defendants made an effort to induce Hannah Smith, the complaining witness in the case of the state against Kelly, indicted on a charge of rape, to leave the community. The girl is now in the industrial school at Mitchellville. Braze is the proprietor of Mount Ayr house, at which she was stopping at the time the alleged effort to get her to leave is alleged to have been made.

The four men gave \$800 bonds. It is probable they will be tried at the term of court beginning Feb. 5.

Spence formerly was chairman of the republican state central committee, and Smith is a candidate for United States attorney for the southern district.

District Attorney Fredericks declared last night that if the United States government instituted an investigation concerning any unlawful transportation of dynamite, or if authorities elsewhere in the United States wished to delve into causes of explosions where labor was involved, it was a matter in which he had no further concern, though any information at his disposal would be given to the proper authorities desiring it.

The scene in the court room yesterday was one of protracted attention. Sensation followed with such rapidity that the gaping crowd hardly realized what happened in those few minutes of formal procedure. In less than twenty minutes the big case was disposed of, but for hours previously there had been an uncertain, unsatisfied feeling that something startling would develop, and so closely guarded was the information that the spectators were prepared for almost anything except the thing presented.

It was not thought that after the vigorous battle waged thus far one side would lay down its arms so willingly, so freely and even so happily—for both prisoners smiled, chewed gum and appeared as they have on other days, confidently unconcerned.

Although there were many persons last night who claim to have advance information on the turn which affairs took, even the district attorney was not sure until just before noon that the end was in sight. There were to be developments in the court room, he told his associates, and all brought their wives and friends. They crowded into the chamber and even swarmed into the big newspaper enclosure, where many seats had been vacated by reporters who once had been there and intended to return for developments more sensational than those of getting a jury. In the crowd were detectives for both sides, many women and even a baby that emitted a smile almost simultaneously with the announcement of the plea of guilty of John McNamara.

Real Estate Transfers.

G. W. Hughes and wf to Brit L. Britson—wd—lot 5, blk E, R. R. addition, W. C.—\$5.00.

John W. Sheldon and wf to C. A. Kastler—wd—lot 15, blk 6, W. F. & Co. addition, W. C.—\$2,600.00.

J. R. C. Hunter and wf to J. H. Shipp—wd—se—s½ ne—se nw—ne sw 2-87-26.—\$21,000.00.

Frank D. Riley and wf to Minne M. Kemmerer—wd—w¼ nw se 31-88-25.—\$2,500.00.

Ladies, read the big advertisement about "93" Shampoo Paste—25c—in this week's Saturday Evening Post. Sold only by Buster Brown.

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FOR THE YOUNG LADY	FOR THE YOUNG MAN	FOR THE FATHER
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Brooch	Shaving Mug	Cuff Buttons
Hat Pin	Watch Fob	Shaving Mug
Bracelet	Scarf Pin	Cigar Jar
Nail File	Cuff Buttons	Match Safe
Jewel Case	Fountain Pen	Fountain Pen
Locket	Military Brushes	
Mesh Bag	Safety Razors	

  

FOR THE MOTHER	FOR THE HOME
Silver Thimble	Cake Basket
Bonnet Brush	Baking Dish
Reading Glass	Bon Bon Dish
Hat Pin	Nut Bowl
Mantle Clock	Bread Tray
Eye Glasses	Berry Spoon
Eye Glass Chain	Cold Meat Fork
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	Knives & Forks
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	Mantel Clock

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# PUBLIC SALE!

Five registered mares and six high grade mares, sixty head of cattle, farm machinery, etc., will be sold at public sale on

Wednesday, Dec. 6,

Beginning at 10 o'clock, a. m., at my place, 7 miles southeast of Webster City and 3 miles northwest of Kamrar.

11-20-13-13-d5\*

W. Dilman Chalfant.

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