

Captain Hall Carries Young Girl Off to Sea

San Diego Much Aroused Over Kidnaping

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 10.—Marco Bennis, whose 13-year-old daughter, Dora, has been kidnaped by Captain A. W. (Windy) Hall and taken away in his gasoline schooner Rover, is now taking steps toward organizing an independent armed expedition for the purpose of capturing this latter-day buccaner.

Hall's exploit is one of the boldest in the history of this port, which has recorded many a daring achievement against the laws of God and country.

About November 7 "Windy" Hall came to San Diego and took rooms at the Hotel Roma, which is conducted by Marco Bennis. With him was a woman whom he introduced as Mrs. Howeston, the wife of his engineer. Mrs. Howeston took a singular interest in Dora Bennis, the 13-year-old daughter of the landlord, and won the child's confidence. The woman mentioned the plans of Hall to establish a shell-gathering camp at San Juan Capistrano, near here, and the captain said that he needed a young girl to do light work in the camp, explaining that he would pay unusually good wages. The Bennis family has been in financial straits for some time, and to Dora, in whose presence these remarks were made, it seemed like a God-given opportunity to assist her father in a pecuniary way. The child signified her willingness to take the position, and her father consented after some persuasion.

A contract was drawn up between Bennis and Hall, stating that Dora's work was to be light, that she was to have the companionship and guidance of Mrs. Howeston and would be furnished free transportation to and from the camp every Saturday, in order that she might frequently see her parents.

Some new clothing and a trunk were provided for the child by the Bennis family, and she was bid a fond farewell when the Rover raised anchor and put out to sea.

LETTER FROM GIRL

Several weeks passed and little Dora did not return. Then the father became worried and started to investigate. He found no shell-gathering camp had been established along the coast near San Juan Capistrano and that the Rover had headed in the direction of Mexico. Another week of suspense followed and then came a letter from the missing girl, dated in San Quentin harbor, Lower California, Mexico. It read as follows:

Dear Father—I am kidnaped by that evil man Captain Hall. He said he was going to San Juan Capistrano, but that is all a lie. He got me on board and struck out for Mexico, and when night came he tried to assault me. He has tried to do so every night since, though he treats me with apparent respect before his crew. He has kept me off so far, but he has got laudation and is trying to give it to me so that he can ruin me when I am unconscious. He was trying to do something, drank it and nearly died.

He is going down to Magdalena Bay. Can't you get the American Consul there and have him arrested and send me money by registered mail to come back? I am lost.

Mrs. Howeston told me not to take anything from him because she is afraid I did you any letters from me. Your daughter, DORA BENNIS.

F. S.—Writes to El Bajio, Magdalena, Baja California, Mexico.

FATHER IS FRANTIC

When Marco Bennis received this letter the shock almost drove him insane. He rushed to the police station and told his story. There he was advised to see the District Attorney. A warrant for Hall's arrest was immediately issued and the Governor was requested to issue extradition papers. An attorney offered Bennis his services in the matter, and the State Department at Washington was informed of the affair. It responded promptly and a message was sent to the American embassy at Mexico City to instruct all consuls in coast towns to watch for Hall and the Rover, and cause his arrest and detention when found until extradition papers could be served.

Thus far no trace of the fugitive has been gained, though he was spoken by the captain of the Steamer St. Dennis, plying between San Diego and Ensenada, Mexico, some weeks ago.

Hopes are entertained that the Government will detail the cruiser Boston to capture and bring Hall back to this city for trial. If this is not done shortly an independent expedition will be organized, headed by Bennis, to capture the kidnaper and make short work of him. A number of local citizens have signified their willingness to finance such an expedition, and seafaring men will not be lacking to man the sloop for such an undertaking.

HALL'S BAD RECORD

Captain Hall is a notorious character, with a record almost as bad as that of the famous smuggler, Alexander McLean. For many years he has been suspected of smuggling between this and Mexican ports, and though several times arrested, sufficient evidence has never been obtained by the revenue officials to secure a conviction. Hall has also been under the surveillance of the immigration inspectors, it being believed that he was allied with the notorious band of outlaws, resident in Lower California, who make a living by stealing cattle and smuggling Chinese across the border of the United States. Recently Captain Hall decoyed a party of wealthy eastern mining men aboard his craft by spurious claims of a wonderful mineral discovery in Lower California, and, according to their story, attempted to poison them. Hall was arrested, tried and acquitted for lack of sufficient evidence, and since then has been engaged in a number of nefarious operations, including an attempt to sell a salted mine in Mexico to American promoters.

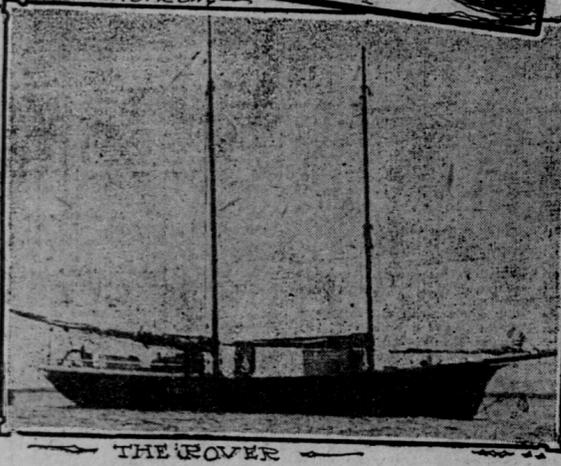
His vessel, the Rover, has been a frequent but erratic visitor to the port of San Diego, her ostensible trade being as a guano carrier. Hall always seemed to have plenty of money when in port, and spent it freely.

Rudolph Barth, Watchmaker, Jeweler, 1821 Fillmore st., above Sutter; good assortment of everything in the watch and jewelry line; only reliable goods sold; special holiday rates.

PASSENGERS SUFFER IN COLD AFTER LAKE STEAMER WRECK

FORT WILLIAM, Ont., Dec. 10.—The passenger steamer Monarch, with ten passengers and a crew of thirty, was wrecked today on Isle Royale, Lake Superior. The passengers and crew succeeded in reaching shore, but are without protection from the zero weather. Tugs have been dispatched with provisions and physicians.

Buy your awnings, tents and wagon covers at F. Thom's, 1209 Mission st.



MORE MONEY FOR S. P. COMPANY

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CALL
BOSTON, Dec. 10.—Southern Pacific reports of October operations today, showing an increase in net earnings of over \$970,000 as follows:
Gross earnings, \$10,913,951; operating expenses, \$6,347,830; net receipts over expenditures, \$4,566,070; gross earnings increases, \$1,531,523 (over corresponding month last year); four months' gross, \$39,585,665; expenses and taxes, \$24,811,814; net, \$15,273,851.

LAWLOR CONTINUES CASES

Argument on Nicholas and Duffy Indictments Goes Over Until Today
Bollied, for the time by Ruef and Schmitz, the greater malefactor, Supervisor F. P. Nicholas, charged with agreeing to accept a bribe, and Peter M. Duffy, charged with the commission of perjury in an effort to shield the defendant, saw their cases put over yesterday by Judge Lawlor. They had hoped to hear argument on the motion to set aside the indictments against them, but the presence of their counsel, Charles Fairall and Frank J. Murphy, was required in the greater case before Judge Dunne, so a continuance until this afternoon at 2 o'clock was ordered.

Before the case went over, however, counsel stipulated to the fact that George Dealy and Sam Daniels had been excused from service on the Grand Jury on the ground that they were not regularly on the assessment roll, which the defendants claim was irregular and prejudicial to their interests, and also stipulated to the facts involved in the indictment proceedings instituted by District Attorney Langdon to prevent his removal from the office of District Attorney and to the fact that Wallace C. Wise, a member of the Grand Jury, had served as a juror within one year of the date of his appointment to the more important office. It is the contention of the defense that Langdon was not actually the District Attorney when he presented the facts against the defendant to the Grand Jury, and that by reason of this fact the indictments are of no effect.

STOCKTON MAN FALLS DOWN STAIRS AND BREAKS HIS NECK

Body of Member of the Order of Druids is Found on Antioch Wharf
MARTINEZ, Dec. 10.—Ernest Silden, a well known man of Stockton, was found dead on the coal wharf at Antioch yesterday at the foot of a 20-foot flight of stairs. The remains were taken to the morgue and an autopsy performed by Dr. Kelly, who found that Silden's neck had been broken by the fall. It is believed that Silden fell in the darkness of the night. He was about 35 years of age and a member of the Stockton Order of Druids.

"CLIMAX JIM" JAILED AGAIN—Solomonville, Ariz., Dec. 10.—"Climax Jim," a notorious jail-bait, has been charged with cashing canceled checks. "Climax Jim," whose real name is Johnson, has escaped from nearly every jail in Southern California. He was twice escaped from a steel cell here, once with shackles riveted to his ankle.

Ruef and Schmitz's Attorneys Haggle in Hope to Stay Doom

Continued From Page 1, Column 1

answered Ach as an exhibition of frankness.

Then, addressing the court, Ach said: "If your Honor does not agree with me at least let us have a record on which we can go with this new point to the Supreme Court."

"They are continually repeating two points," said Heney, rising from his chair. "It is first the old cry of the defendant that the prosecutor is proceeding in bad faith; that he is a wicked man ever to have imagined such a thing. Then their second cry is that the chief magistrate of the city is being attacked. Before the law all men are equal, but when it comes to facts Ach has admitted that they took the money—took the \$5000 innocently. Let's stop all this talk about dragging the Mayor through the gutter. Let's stop right here and take twelve men and let the people of San Francisco know that their chief executive is innocent, if he is guiltless. Let them know it at once. Let's not waste the time of this court any longer with absolute technicalities, intended solely to

defeat the ends of justice. You say you are here to aid the court. It is not always so. I know of a lawyer who lately interposed dilatory motions till the statute of limitations had run against the plaintiff. Perhaps he is here now trying to do the same thing."

Ach was quick to resent the reference to the case in Judge Hunt's court in which he was the offender and was on his feet on the instant with a storm of abuse, but with no intimation that his client would welcome a speedy trial as suggested by Heney.

Shortridge took up the war of words in the afternoon session by reading section 1385 of the Penal Code, which refers to the motion to dismiss. He tried to make it apply to the novel procedure asked for, but there was no authority to quote.

"They are harassing a citizen in several proceedings for the same offense," said Shortridge. "It might do in Russia. It might have been done in Ireland. But even in Turkey I do not think they would do it."

Judge Dunne brought Shortridge

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