

CLARA PHILLIPS ESCAPES FROM JAIL

CONVICTED GIRL
SAWS BARS AND
ELUDES POSSES

Former Chorus Star Believed
to Have Been Aided by
Other Inmates.
AUTOMOBILE USED
Another Chapter in Brutal
Hammer Murder Written
Sensational Escape.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 5.—Clara
Phillips climbed out of a window
in the women's section of the
county jail and escaped early to-
day. She was under a sentence of
ten years to life imprisonment
after conviction for the hammer
murder of Alberta Meadows. She
was held in the jail pending for
a trial of an appeal.

With the aid of several steel
saws her escape was effected at 2
p. m., according to a report to the
sheriff by the jailer. Belief was
expressed that she had been aided
by other inmates. Bars were
sawed through and after crawling
out the window she dropped to
the roof of an adjoining building,
climbed down the fire escape and
disappeared.

The escape was not discovered
by jail authorities for several
hours. The matron in making
rounds saw the bed in Mrs.
Phillips cell vacant. The matron
discovered the sawed and
loosened bars and notified the
sheriff.

The former chorus girl, who
three weeks ago was found guilty
of what prosecuting officials de-
clared to be one of the most
heinous murders they have had to
conduct, her liberty with a
handcuffed man to that which
the hammer slaying was revealed
last July. It is believed she es-
caped in an automobile.

Close examination of the cell
window and the sawed bars fail-
ed to reveal any trace of the saw
used. This led to the opinion
of investigators that the bars
may have been sawed through
several days ago.

Orders were issued by Sheriff
Hager to bring in all persons
connected with the hammer mur-
der in order to trace all plans of
the jail break. All sheriffs de-
partments were called in and posses
issued out.

Gets Several Hours' Start.
Mrs. Phillips had several hours'
start before the sheriff's office
laid a drag net throughout
Southern California. At South-
ern California cities have been
cordoned and with authorities at
the border warned in time the
sheriff expects to prevent the fugi-
tive from reaching Mexico. De-
puties were sent out to interview
Mr. Madalynne Obenchain, who
occupied an adjoining cell to the
one in which Mrs. Phillips was
detained. Efforts are also being
made to locate Arthur Phillips,
husband of Mrs. Phillips.

Mrs. Phillips was last seen at
Fairmont, when the matron enter-
ed the cell on the last round of
the day, just before she retired for
the night. She said that all was
quiet at that time and the pris-
oner was apparently sleeping.

Clue (?) Discovered
LONG BEACH, Cal., Dec. 5.—
Authorities here started an investi-
gation of the theory that Mrs.
Clara Phillips may have put to sea
in a motor boat or may be hiding
elsewhere.

ADMITTED TO BAIL.
HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 5.—
Lawrence Roberts, indicted with
his sister Gilliam for the murder of
Hester Hager, taxi driver, who was
found dead in the Ohio River near
here on August 26, was admitted to
bail in the sum of \$2,000 by Judge
E. Matthews of common pleas
court today. Roberts has been in
jail since his arrest on the day
after the body was found.

LOST
Small black pocketbook, con-
taining a sum of money and
receipts, between Sapper's Store
and Jones' Undertaking Parlor.
Finder, phone 1707-R. Reward.

LOST
Mabum Bagelot, set with
Sappires. Night of Thanks-
giving Dinner Dance, Fairmont
Hotel. Finder please re-
turn to Fairmont Hotel and
receive suitable reward.

Chess Champion to
Lecture Tomorrow
at Exhibition Here

Frank J. Marshall, champ-
ion chess player of the United
States, who has written one
book on the queen's pawn
opening, will devote a part of
his time tomorrow night to a
short lecture on brilliant chess
openings, and those who have
not mastered this style of open-
ing may be able to persuade the
champion to enlighten them.
Ralph Hawley, who is quite an
enthusiast, is particularly anx-
ious to hear something from the
master of the queen's
pawn as to how this opening
should be played, its advan-
tages and dangers. At the
present time, interest in the
game is on the increase, and a
chess club will probably result
from all indications. A game
by telephone between the
champions of the Fairmont
club and the Wheeling club
has already been suggested, and
as there are a number of play-
ers both in Morgantown and
Clarksburg, it is not at all im-
probable that a four club
tournament will be held some
time this winter.

H. C. SHOWALTER
DIES IN KANSAS
CITY IN MORNING

Father of Howard W. and
Judge Showalter Passes
Away at Age of 78.

Henry Clay Showalter, a prac-
ticing attorney of Kansas City,
Mo., and father of Howard W.
Showalter, president of the Dia-
mond Coal Co., and Judge Emmett
M. Showalter of the arion County
Criminal Court, died at the home
of his daughter, Mrs. Ford Rog-
ers, 3003 Park avenue, Kansas
City, Mo., at 10:20 o'clock this
morning (central time).

Mr. Showalter had been hover-
ing between life and death for
several days and at the same time
his wife is also in a dying con-
dition. The news was conveyed
from the Middle West in a tele-
gram from Judge Showalter to
his brother, Howard W. Show-
alter. Death was due to general
infirmities incident to old age, as
he was in his seventy-ninth year.
He passed the seventy-eighth mil-
lstone on October 6.

His career was a very interest-
ing one. He was a son of the late
James W. Showalter of Smithfield
Fayette County, Pa., who died
just a few years ago at the ripe old
age of 92 years. When a mere boy
of 15 he joined the Union army as
a drummer boy and was present
at a number of engagements dur-
ing his service in the ranks.

After the Civil War closed he
returned to Fayette County, Pa.,
but later attended West Virginia
University and was graduated
from its legal department, which
was especially noted at that time.
Following that he located in Pres-
cott County and practiced in King-
wood. After his marriage to Miss
Hattie Brock of Morgantown, who
is now in a serious condition in
Kansas City, they went to Ritchie
County and located at Harrisville,
where Mr. Showalter was an at-
torney-at-law. There they remain-
ed for thirty years.

Probably twelve years ago he
and Mrs. Showalter decided to lo-
cate in Kansas City, Mo., and they
had lived there since that time.
He followed the general practice
of law there and did considerable
work for a land company in addi-
tion to other legal practice.

During his long career Mr. Show-
alter never held public office, ex-
cept once, when he was county
superintendent of free schools of
Ritchie County, when a young
man. He was a member of the
Ritchie County Bar Association,
and the state and American bar
association. He was a member of
the Baptist Church.

Mr. Showalter was very active
in the Baptist faith. He was su-
perintendent of the Sunday School
of the Baptist Church at Harris-
ville for twenty-five years and he
was instrumental in building the
Baptist Church at Harrisville
about thirty-five years ago.

He was known to a number of
Fairmonters, as he visited here
not over six weeks ago. Despite his
years he appeared to enjoy fairly
good health at that time.

He is survived by four sons,
Howard W. Showalter, president
of the Diamond Coal Co., Fair-
mont; Judge Emmett M. Show-
alter of the arion County Crimi-
nal Court, Fairmont; H. A. Show-
alter of near Morgantown, asso-
ciated with the Diamond Coal Co.;
P. H. Showalter, Denver, Colo.,
general superintendent of the Pru-
den (Continued on page eight.)

BRADLEY SHOWS
COAL BUSINESS
A PARTNERSHIP

President of State Associa-
tion Declares Miner En-
titled to Fair Treatment.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 5.—
The coal mining business is nothing
more nor less than a partnership
between operator and every miner
regarding each subject in their re-
spective places, to the hazards of
the industry, J. G. Bradley, presi-
dent of the West Virginia Coal As-
sociation and recent president of
the National Coal Association, as-
serted in an address here this af-
ternoon before the semi-annual
meeting of the West Virginian Coal
Mining Institute.

The institute opened a two days'
meeting here this morning, with E.
W. Knight, president, Charleston,
presiding. J. F. Joy, president of
the Joy Machine Co. of Pittsburgh,
spoke at the morning session on
the development of coal loading
machinery.

In tracing the duties and respon-
sibilities in the light of their re-
spective objects of the employer
and employee, Mr. Bradley told the
institute, comprising largely oper-
ators and engineers, that the object
of the coal operator "is to secure a
return on his investment through
the mining and marketing of the
particular body of coal he has un-
dertaken to develop, and he expects
this return to include both interest
on the money he puts in the enter-
prise and a profit to repay him for
his enterprise and initiative and
skill in management."

On the other hand, Mr. Bradley
declared, "the object of the coal
miner is to get the full market
value for his services. He hopes
to get a return from them from
which he can make a living for
himself and anyone dependent on
him and should be able to put some-
thing aside in the form of savings.
He expects fair treatment and jus-
tice." (Continued on page eight.)

SUPPLY OF CARS
DROPS AGAIN ON
LOCAL RAILWAYS

Shortage Causes Idleness at
Many Mines—Production
Heavy Yesterday.

Car supply in Northern West
Virginia today averaged 35 per
cent on five divisions. The supply
of empties was not as strong today
as yesterday. There were 2,055
empties on the five divisions, which
yesterday the total run was 2,292.

On the Monongah Division, B. &
O., today there is a 48 per cent
run; on the Monongahela, 27 per
cent; on the M. & W., 60 per cent;
on the Western Maryland, 27 per
cent; and on the Charleston Di-
vision, 19 per cent. Mines on the
Monongahela in Pennsylvania to-
day have a 16 per cent run of cars.

Due to the shortage of cars there
are forty-four mines idle today on
the Monongah Division, while on
the Charleston Division there are
fifty-one idle.

Divisional Placements.
Along the Monongah Division
there are 1,494 empties, of which
1,198 coal and 42 coke cars were
placed at 7 o'clock this morning.
The mines ordered 2,230 cars, of
which 1,830 cars were for com-
mercial loading and 500 for railroad
fuel. There were 105 privately
owned cars on the division today.

Mines on the Monongahela Rail-
way today had a placement of 203
cars, while 669 were ordered. On
the Morgantown & Wheeling 517
were ordered but only 314 placed.
Operations on the Charleston Di-
vision today have 65 empties, while
427 were ordered. In the Pennsylv-
ania end of the Monongahela
there were 101 cars placed while
623 were ordered.

Commercial Loading.
On the Monongah Division yester-
day there were 851 commercial
cars loaded. Railroads secured 529
cars and privately owned cars
loaded were 51.

Monday's Loading.
Coal loading in Northern West
Virginia was heavy on Monday
when 2,688 cars were loaded. This
was against 3,901 cars last Mon-
day, the banner daily loading of
Northern West Virginia, and
against 2,580 cars on Monday,
November 20.

Production on the various di-
visions yesterday was as follows:
B. and O.—Monongah, 1,431 cars;
Charleston, 117 cars; Connells-
ville (Continued on page eight.)

Direct Election of President and
Vice-President Favorably Reported

PIERPONT AVENUE
COUPLE CONVICTED
IN POLICE COURT

Defendants in Action Appeal
Case to Marion County
Criminal Court.

"I am convinced that you both
are guilty as charged." This was
the statement of Mayor W. W.
Conaway at the conclusion of the
trial of the case of the city vs
John Jones and Laura Ella Mit-
chell, who were arrested on a
warrant charging adultery when
city policemen raided the Mitchell
home in Pierpont avenue at 2
o'clock Sunday morning. Mayor
Conaway imposed fines of \$20 and
costs upon each and Attorney
George Rose and C. W. Brandon,
counsel for the defense, announced
that the case would be appeal-
ed to the higher court. Mayor Con-
away fixed the appeal bond at
\$200.

A large crowd was in atten-
dance at court today as two big
cases were held over from yester-
day morning's session. For a time
it looked kind of bad for the
spectators, as City Attorney Albert
Kern and Attorneys Brandon and
Rose for the defendants in the
main case of the session entered a
motion that the court room be
cleared of all spectators. After
inquiring if any juvenile witnesses
or principals would be up before
the court at the session and being
informed in the negative, Mayor
Conaway replied that he saw no
reason for excluding the public
from the session.

Two traffic violations cases
were disposed of before the big
case of the session was called.
One of the traffic offenders was
charged with blocking traffic and
the other with parking wrong in
Main street. Fines of \$2 and costs
were imposed in each case by the
mayor. The fines were paid, and
the violators released.

Mayor Conaway then called the
case of the city vs Jones and
Mitchell. The warrant charging
the couple with committing adu-
ltery had been read to them just
prior to the opening of court.
Mayor Conaway asked what plea
they wished to enter. Attorney
Brandon answered for the defend-
ants entering a plea of not guilty.

City Attorney Kern asked that
Night Chief Sroyer and Police-
man McKinney and Downey be
sworn. McKinney was the first
witness called to the stand. He
testified that Mrs. Jones, wife of
the defendant in the case, had
made complaint to the police that
her husband, John Jones, who had
deserted her and her five children
was living unlawfully with Mrs.
Laura Mitchell at 553 Pierpont
avenue and that they had moon-
shine liquor at the house. This in-
formation, according to Police-
man McKinney was taken to Pro-
secuting Attorney Frank R. Amos,
who authorized Magistrate J. L.
Biocher to give the police officers
a search and seizure warrant for
the Mitchell home.

Armed with this warrant Mc-
Kinney (Continued on page three)

24 PASSENGERS ON
TRAIN BADLY HURT

OMAHA, Dec. 5.—Twenty-four
passengers on Wabash train No.
14, which left for St. Louis last
night, were seriously hurt, and a
hundred others shocked and
bruised when the train was derailed
through some unknown cause near
Shenandoah, Idaho, last night. The
train was traveling forty miles an
hour and just had crossed a bridge
when the tender left the track.
Three coaches followed the tender,
turning over.

AUTO SHOW PLANNED.
A tent will house the automobile
show to be held in Fairmont this
year under the sponsorship of the
Fairmont Automotive Association,
whose members met in the offices
of the Fairmont Chamber of Com-
merce last night for the final deci-
sion. The affair will probably be
held some time in March. It was
considered imperative to "stage" the
show in a tent, this year, because
of the increased attendance making
the use of a building impractical.
An effort to present the best
automobile show ever staged in
Northern West Virginia will con-
stitute the aim of the members of
the association.

Eighteen Months in Jail Make Little
Change in Mrs. Madalynne Obenchain



These photos, the one at the left taken years ago, the other recently, show how little ef-
fect eighteen months in jail have had upon Madalynne Obenchain, whose charms once made her
the reigning belle of Northwestern University. Mrs. Obenchain, tried for the alleged murder of J. Belmont Kennedy, her former sweetheart,
and Arthur C. Burch, who underwent trial on the same charge three times, today, after a legally free
of the accusation, but Burch is in the psychopathic ward of county hospital in Los Angeles awaiting
an insanity hearing Thursday before the Los Angeles County Lunacy Commission. He was taken there last night from the county jail after dismissal of indictments against
him and Mrs. Obenchain.

CLEMENCEAU AND
PRESIDENT MEET

War Time Premier of France
Not to Visit Wilson Un-
til Tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—George
Clemenceau paid his respects
today to President Harding.

Arriving at the White House
three minutes before 10 o'clock, the
hour at which the President was
to receive him, he was ushered im-
mediately into the executive of-
fices where the President greeted
him.

The "Tiger" of France, looking
hale and jaunty and wearing his
"tub"—high hat—for the second
time since his arrival in America,
was accompanied by Jules J. Jus-
serand, the French ambassador,
who presented him to the Presi-
dent. A small crowd which had
gathered outside the White House
grounds applauded Clemenceau as
he arrived.

Late tomorrow the war time
premier will call on Mayor Presi-
dent Wilson, with whom he sat in
the council of the "big five" at
Versailles. Prior to his arrival here
yesterday, it had been reported
that the visit to the former Presi-
dent would follow immediately the
call on President Harding but this
was made known today that no de-
finite engagement had been made
until 5 o'clock tomorrow after-
noon.

Mrs. Leon Griffith to Be
Buried Here Tomorrow

The body of Mrs. Leon Griffith,
a niece of R. W. Potter of this
city, whose death occurred in
Wheeling on Sunday, will be
brought here this afternoon and
will be taken to the Potter resi-
dence on Walnut avenue. The
funeral will take place tomorrow
morning at 10 o'clock. Mrs. Potter
who had been the guest of her
daughter, Mrs. H. C. Hamilton, in
Pittsburgh, Pa., will accompany
the body here, as will also Mr.
Hamilton.

WANAMAKER IMPROVING.
John Wanamaker, who is ill at his home
here, was reported in an improv-
ed condition by his attending physi-
cians today.

ROTARIANS TO DINE
ON VENISON TONIGHT

"Ladies' Night" will be ob-
served by the local Rotary Club
this evening when the wives and
friends of the members are en-
tertained at a venison dinner at
6:30 o'clock in the auditorium of
the "Y." The deer, the head-
liner on the menu, was recently
brought back from Canada by
"Bunny" Kelley.

Mr. Kelley returned to Fair-
mont from his recent trip with
two deer in his possession, one of
which he presented to the Rotary
Club. This part of the meal will
be prepared by Irvin Hixenbaugh,
chef at the Watson Cafe, whose
ability in this line is well recog-
nized. The remainder of the din-
ner will be prepared by the
kitchen force at the "Y."

The program for the affair has
not been announced as it is
planned to give a surprise en-
tertainment for the benefit of the
women present. Rotary talent
will be used, and the club songs
and yells will be given. All the
diversions will be given in the
nature of surprise entertainment.

MYSTERY OF SLAIN
AUTO MAN SOLVED

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The mys-
tery surrounding the slaying of
Joseph Lanus, wealthy automob-
ile dealer, whose body was found
in the rear of his garage Novem-
ber 24, was solved today, the pub-
lic announced by the confession
of Lawrence Heffernan, one of
seven persons under arrest, that
the victim was shot and killed in
an attempted robbery. Lanus shot
one of the robbers, Heffernan,
four other men and two women
were in custody in connection
with several fur robberies, and the
police admitted they were without
a clue in connection with the slay-
ing until they say, Julia Hart-
nett, one of the women held, made
a statement involving Heffernan
and other members of their band.

After lengthy questioning, Chief
of Detectives Michael Hughes said
Heffernan admitted that Lanus
had been shot in an attempt to
rob him. The robbers fled without
any loot.

SWISS DOCTOR DIES.
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 5.—Dr.
H. W. Kiburne, 65, said to have
been the owner of sanitariums at
Berne and Lucerne, Switzerland,
died here yesterday. It is under-
stood burial probably will be at
Providence, R. I., where relatives
live.

COURT LIABLE FOR
BRIDGE ACCIDENTS

Persons Injured by Bridge
Being Out of Repairs May
Sue County Courts.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 5.—
Liability to persons injured by
a bridge being out of repair rests
with county courts. Even when the
bridge is outside incorporated
city, town or village, limits, the
county court is liable for such in-
jury.

This was held by the State
Supreme Court in an opinion writ-
ten by Judge Meredith in the case
of Forest L. Parsons vs. County
Court of Roane County, which de-
cision of the lower court was re-
versed.

A county court was made liable,
the opinion held, according to the
statute, for any injury sustained
by a person by reaction of a poor
road or bridge in its community
being out of repair, except if the
place where the injury occurred
was inside the incorporated lim-
its of a city, town or village,
where the town or city was char-
tered to keep the roads in repairs.
The primary liability then would
be fixed on the city, town or vil-
lage.

The statute was enacted in 1906
and re-enacted twice.

Cases decided and opinions read
by the Supreme Court were:
Forest Parsons, infant, vs. Coun-
ty Court of Roane Co., from Roane
County, judgment reversed and
judgment for plaintiff entered on
verdict; Judge Meredith.

Elk Retaining Co. vs. Falling
Rock Cannal Coal Co., et al, from
Kanawha County, reversed and
decree for plaintiff entered; Judge
Meredith.

State of West Virginia vs. Char-
lie Walker, from Kanawha County,
judgment affirmed; Judge Lively.
J. M. Haller vs. Clay Bartlett,
from Taylor County, judgment re-
versed, appeal from justice of
peace reinstated and case re-
manded; Judge Lively.

State of West Virginia vs. M. G.
Martin from Roane County, judg-
ment affirmed; Judge Miller.
James O'Keefe vs. Eclipse Poca-
hontas Coal Co., from McDowell
County, reversed and plaintiff's ac-
tion dismissed as to both defend-
ants; Judge Miller.

NEW PROGRESSIVE
BLOC WINS FIRST
TILT IN CONGRESS

Senate Agricultural Commit-
tee Makes Favorable Re-
port on Amendment.

MAY CHANGE TERMS

Proposed Change in Constitu-
tion Far-Reaching in
Its Scope.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.— Mem-
bers of the new progressive bloc in
Congress won their first legisla-
tive victory today by obtaining
from the Senate agricultural com-
mittee a favorable report on a re-
volution to amend the Constitution
to provide for direct election of the
President and Vice-President.

The amendment also would
change presidential inauguration
day from March 4 to the third Mon-
day in January and members of the
Senate and House would begin their
terms of office, the first Monday
in January after the biennial elec-
tions. Congress would meet in
regular session on the first Monday
in January.

DISTRICT WAGE
PACTS FAVORED

Little News of Coal Parley
in Chicago Being Receiv-
ed in Coal Circles.

Little news is filtering through
from the proposed joint confer-
ence between the coal operators of
the organized fields of the United
Mine Workers of America, which
starts tomorrow in Chicago. It
has been learned from Fairmont-
ers at the conference that the set-
tlement of the operating there is
for district agreements rather
than a nation wide agreement, as
it is believed the miners are de-
sirous of procuring a substitute
for the old Central Competitive
Field plan. This was the drift of
the sentiment of the coal opera-
tors who met at an informal con-
ference in Chicago yesterday.
The chairman, Phil Penna, Terre
Haute, Ind., was absent.

It was learned today that
George S. Brackett, Fairmont,
secretary of the Northern West
Virginia Coal Operators' Associa-
tion, is acting for the Monog-
ahela Coal Association, Morgantown,
the president, W. E. Watson,
the authorized representa-
tive, being detained here because
of illness in the family.

Coal Shipments.
Coal shipments to Curtis Bay
off the Monongah Division, B. &
O. on Monday totaled ninety-nine
cars. There were no other pier
shipments.

Coke Loading.
Sixty-one cars of coke were
loaded off the Monongah Divi-
sion yesterday, thirty-three cars
being loaded east and twenty-
eight cars west. In addition there
were two cars east of the Con-

20 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS
JIMMY WANTS A ROCKING HORSE
A DRUM AND ODDLES AND
THINGS UPON HIS LIST WOULD
A BIG DEPARTMENT STORE