

GET CONFESSION FROM SENDER OF THREAT LETTERS

Authorities Hold Noah Van Meter for "Black Hand" Missives to Baker.

(Continued from page one.)

Police authorities to assist in running down the writer. Within a week a second letter was received by Baker informing him that if he did not do as he was bid, not he alone but his wife also would suffer death.

Upon receipt of the first letter, Baker ordered chains to be put on the main entrance to his home. The second letter enclosed the information that the writer had information that such a measure would be futile to prevent carrying out of designs against him if he did not comply with the request.

Mr. Baker was instructed accordingly to the terms of the letters to signify his willingness to pay the \$5,000 by marking a cross upon the doorstep of his home. He would then be informed how the money should be paid.

Showing Weakening Signs. The third letter came in February and repeated the same threats but the terms of this missive, couched as they were in a letter threatening weakness, showed signs of the writer weakening. Meanwhile the investigation by the authorities was well under way and the positive identification of the criminal was only a matter of days.

Further and further together in figuring a solution of the mystery. Inquiry of employes at the Baker home disclosed the fact that the housekeeper's daughter was keeping company with the man who was formerly Baker's chauffeur.

The postmaster had a sample of his handwriting in a letter written to his sister. This letter asking permission for an extension of leave of absence and it served the purpose of disclosing Van Meter's characteristics of writing. To clinch the case, a forwarding card which was printed in pencil disclosed the marked similarity of the printed words scattered throughout the threatening "blackhand" letters.

Work of Amateur. To further fasten the guilt upon the suspect, the letter, written by Van Meter when an employe, and the "seven" missive were brought to the attention of a handwriting expert in Chicago. Declaring that while a man will never sign his name twice alike, there were the certain characteristics of handwriting which can never be eliminated, he called attention to the "seven" letters as the work of an amateur and positively belonging to the former postal employe.

Thinking that Van Meter may have had others associated with him in the perpetration of the scheme, local authorities bided their time, disregarding Van Meter's threats and expecting him to implicate his associates. Results resulted from Van Meter's movements, however, that would lead them to believe he was not alone. He was then called to Inspector Tole's office and his confession followed.

POLICE CONDUCT TWO SUCCESSFUL RAIDS SATURDAY

(Continued from page one.)

bottles were brought out until the number 23 was counted. DeMay was placed under arrest on a charge of unlawful possession and sale of intoxicating liquor.

The bar, which is located on the first floor, escaped the axe, it is said, after Thomas M. Hoban, representing the South Bend Brewing Assn., pleaded with Chief of Police Lawrence J. Lane to give him time to have it removed from the building. The chief granted the request, it is said, and gave him a limited time in which to have it taken out of the place.

Johnson, the officers declared, proved to be the most obstinate whisky maker they have found to date. When they visited his home he was at the Muesel Brewing Co., which is a short distance away. Detective Carl Withner went to the brewery to bring him home, and when Johnson saw the officers, they said, his first question was: "Will I be able to get out on bond tonight?"

The officer then asked him if he was making "mule" at his house and he is said to have replied that he was and that two stills were then going full blast. That Johnson was telling the truth was proved when the detail entered the home. The smell of "moonshine" was unusually strong and when they reached the upstairs of the house the odor became so heavy that it made tears come to their eyes.

Sees First Still in Action. A can of kerosene was poured into each of the stills, the gas shut off, and soon the "mule" gradually ceased to flow. On the floor the officers found two bottles, each containing whisky, and this was removed to headquarters to be used against Johnson when his case is called for trial. He was booked on a charge of unlawful manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor, and will be given a hearing in police court Monday morning.

Chief Lane accompanied the detail, which was composed of Detectives Sergt. Delnick and Detectives Kish, Withner, Feger, Pinter and Laville. This was the first time the chief had ever witnessed a "moonshine still" in full operation.

POLISH CABINET FILLED. WARSAW, March 11.—The new Polish cabinet to succeed the ministerial resignees March 2 was completed today with Antonio Poniakowski retaining the premiership.

When you say cigars—say Dutch Masters. 45-1f

Confesses



PHILADELPHIA, March 10.—Walter A. Unger, emborizer of \$140,000 of the funds of the Evans Dental Institute, University of Pennsylvania, today confessed his guilt. "I am guilty. I want to start my sentence and get it over with," he said, when given a hearing before Magistrate Renshaw at the city hall. "I stole to try to get money to make my mother happy."

He was held in \$50,000 bail for court.

FIND MAN'S BODY IN BECK'S LAKE; DIED CHRISTMAS

Police Drag Body From Placid Waters After Discovery by Woman.

The placid waters of Beck's lake gave up its Christmas morning dead Saturday when the body, believed to be that of Andrew Lukaszik, 45, was recovered.

Lukaszik is said to have been a resident of this country for the past two years and leaves a family in his native Poland. Up to the time of his death he was living at the home of Antoni Dombrowski, 449 S. Jackson st.

Woman Finds Body. The body was recovered from the lake after a telephone call had been received by the police from Mrs. Susie Raman, 126 S. Kentucky st., who, it is said, noticed a black "dot" on the surface of the lake from a rear window of her home and sent her children to the lake front to investigate.

Lukaszik was the man remembered as a devout attendant of services at the St. Adalbert Catholic church, who during Christmas eve midnight services took suddenly ill and had to be escorted from the church. The next day boys skating on the ice discovered a hole in the center of the lake and a man's feet lying nearby on the ice. Lukaszik had disappeared and it was believed that he, melancholy as the result of illness, had wandered out upon the lake and fell through the ice.

The body was turned over to Coroner Crumacker, who after an autopsy held Saturday afternoon, is said to have pronounced the case "death by suicide." Lukaszik was born in Poland Nov. 20, 1873, according to an "application for citizenship" paper found among his belongings. He leaves a wife, Francis, and two children, Mary and Niel, residing in Poland. A brother and a sister, both residents of Poland, survive.

Funeral services will be held from the St. Joseph undertaking association on W. Division st. at 3 o'clock this afternoon and at 3:30 o'clock from St. Adalbert's church. Rev. John Osadnik officiating. Burial will be in St. Joseph cemetery.

CHARGE ARSON CAUSE OF CANE FIELD FIRES

HAVANA, March 11.—Calling attention to the numerous cane field fires through Cuba recently with the loss of great deal of the produce, La Prensa states that the government is investigating the cause. El Heraldo de Cuba charges there is an arson conspiracy afoot to reduce the Cuban crop, intimating that foreign interests are involved.

Consistent as made by La Nación that the fire which destroyed the big Los Palacios sugar mill Thursday came through a conspiracy in which foreign concerns were implicated.

Asks Democrats to Aid Him for Treasurership

Marton S. Wesolowski, 414 S. William st., who was deputy in the county treasurer's office for 14 years, has decided to make the race for county treasurer, he announced Saturday morning. Mr. Wesolowski was the democratic choice for the office two years ago, but was beaten when the republican landslide ensued.

It is well known in the county because of his long activity in the treasurer's office. He has always been active in democratic politics. Jacob E. Cauffman, republican, Warren township, filed Saturday as a candidate for assessor.

Charles E. Kersner, Lakeview, filed for the office of trustee of Union township.

Del L. Nace, republican, of Clay township, filed as a candidate for the advisory board of the eastern district.

WILL VOTE ON BEER.

CHICAGO, March 11.—A vote in Illinois upon a beer and light wine proposal as a modification of the existing Volstead act, will be held in November if sufficient names are obtained to place the question on the ballot. It was made known today.

OAVATION FOR COLLINS. CORK, Ireland, March 11.—Michael Collins, head of the provisional government, received an ovation when he arrived tonight. Great crowds lined the mile route to the hotel. There were many bands and torchlight processions.

When you say cigar—say Dutch Masters. 45-1f

HOOVER DESCRIBES NIGHTMARE PICTURE OF RUSSIAN FAMINE

Tangled Heaps of Frozen Corpses, Attacked by Starved Dogs, Common.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Tangled heaps of frozen corpses, some attacked by starved dogs, sickness, dirt and cold in the Volga valley are described to Secretary Hoover in a nightmare picture of the famine districts of Soviet Russia, drawn by Thomas H. Dickinson of the American Relief administration, in a special report on conditions there.

Dr. Dickinson made a round-trip tour of the Volga valley and the foothills of the Ural, travelling 4,000 miles by rail, auto and sledge, inspecting 150 villages on the snow-covered steppes. In his report to Mr. Hoover, Dr. Dickinson gave the bare, gruesome details of his observations.

"Losses from famine in Soviet Russia," he said, "come under the heads of emigration, disease and death. Emigration from the villages now rises to about 30 percent. Houses are deserted, not a dog, when called or horse falls sick, leaves him to die on the open plain. Sick persons sit on top of the sledges and are taken down to die. On sleds everywhere, from Poland to the Urals, are freight cars crowded with refugees. The government has not the locomotives to carry them so they are waiting.

"Disease is general. Swollen bellies of children are so common as to no longer excite remark. The characteristic expression of childhood in Russia is that of a person who cannot or whose falls sick, dread going into a room full of children. They all look up at me accusingly, bitterly, as if I had done it. They are born with resentment in their hearts.

"Diseases are well distributed between summer and winter. Last summer, cholera, this winter typhus. Russia lost 6,000,000 dead of typhus in 1912. One city of 200,000 population lost 45,000. This year will be as bad.

"So many are already dying that they are buried in wagon loads. They take off the clothes, throw the dead, throw them into boxes, put snow on the bodies to freeze them, then transport them in piles to the cemetery. There, twice a week, they are thrown into great holes, crowded, packed closely. Dogs have become a menace and take piles of bodies in droves and dig into graves. Dead children, starved to death, are left outside in open ways in piles, covered with snow until they can be buried away."

From his notes Dr. Dickinson described a burying ground near Yuzhna, where the dead, gnawed by dogs, were piled in frozen mounds until thrown into great excavations. "There were three great holes," he continued, "10 by 20 feet and 18 feet deep. Around these were piles of bodies, men, women and children who had died of typhus and hunger. Dogs had been at some bodies and these were bloody. The dogs were driven away, all terribly emaciated and contorted into all shapes of grotesque agony.

"As one sees the lopsided graves of the Russian villages, the gnawed, skin clad bones of the famine corpses, one seizes the dominant motifs of the new Russian act. There was an unreality about these corpses that made it seem appropriate to discuss anything in their presence, cabarets, soda-water, futurist verse. "In piles they were badly tangled up and had to be released like stiff puzzles. Dropped into the graves they made noises like wooden things of the same weight and shape. They had been men, women and children. About 50 come every day.

The psychological factor of relief work among these distressing conditions, Dr. Dickinson declared, was a factor to be considered. As a rule, he explained, the relief agents work alone and the psychological conditions around them is worth as serious consideration as in arctic exploration or in jungle travel.

When a relief agent starts to convey a load of food, Dr. Dickinson reported, he says good-bye to his friends for 10 days, takes blankets, lives in a box car and "takes his luck with bugs and bandits." Transportation, the key to relief, he declared, was almost lost.

"There are no rail lines except crazy narrow-gauge spurs set in some time past by special interest to reach a town or mining camp," he said. "To get from Samara to Kazan, 400 versts, you have to go to Moscow and back 2,000 versts. Same with other cities in the valley. I have seen an American Relief administration local headquarters after four days in a box car in which he had travelled 100 versts.

"For north and south transportation there are no resources, but sledges. Under some conditions these can do up to 20 versts a day. Roads disappear under drifts. Country lakes on appearance of the arctic snow, lose landmarks. Horses can drag their loads only three days a week. A week's provision for a horse is lost as much as a horse. The result is starving people who have horses are trading them for grain.

"People also are trading agricultural machinery for grain; this is bad on next year's crop. The number of horses over the entire area is but one-third of last spring; about one-tenth of normal. Cattle and sheep are the same."

"Russian peasants, Dr. Dickinson reported, are living on bread made out of anything that can be baked and eaten.

"In late September and October," he said, "peasants began to live on libeda, a weed that grows in the wheat and is threshed out with the wheat on clay bread, dung bread, bread from bark and leaves and sawdust, and sunflower seed husks."

When you say cigar—say Dutch Masters. 45-1f

Woman Sues for \$10,000 Damages, Accident Result

Ten thousand dollars damages are sought by Carry Cook against Louis Wilson as result of injuries alleged to have been sustained by her Oct. 3, 1921, when she was run down and injured by Wilson at Main and Wayne sts., according to her complaint filed in superior court No. 2, Saturday.

She charges the defendant with negligence and with driving her car at a speed greater than that permitted by city ordinance. Her injuries consisted of broken left ankle, right clavicle fractured, right arm and right knee cap broken. She still suffers great pain from her injuries, she asserts.

The plaintiff was on foot and the defendant was driving an automobile. It is set out in the complaint.

REVOLUTIONARY OAK ADMITTED TO HALL OF FAME FOR TREES

'Battle Ground Oak' at Guilford Court House Accepted by Association.

GUILFORD COURT HOUSE, N. C., March 11.—Most Americans think the revolution began at Lexington and ended at Yorktown. Close students of history, however, know that the North Carolinians had begun taking up arms in 1771, soon after the Mecklenburg declaration of independence. The battle of Guilford Court House, which immediately preceded the retreat of Cornwallis to the surrender at Yorktown, has been acclaimed as the Revolutionary war. Described in the British parliament as a "victory," it drew from John Fox the rejoinder that "another such victory would mean the destruction of British forces in America."

The 141st anniversary of the battle of Guilford Court House will be celebrated here on March 15th with the placing of the celebrated Battle Ground Oak in the Hall of Fame for Trees established by the American Forestry association. It was the tree to which Gen. Nathaniel Greene tied his horse during that celebrated engagement, and the majestic oak, known to be more than 200 years old, now has a spread of more than a hundred feet and is 21 feet round at the base.

Four miles away is the New Garden oak in a cemetery where stood an old Quaker meeting house where the wounded from the battle were cared for. In the shade of the New Garden oak lies buried the grandfather of Uncle Joe Cannon. This celebrated tree is also to take its place in the hall of fame on the same day.

Nominations for the Battle Ground Oak in the hall of fame were made by Mrs. Dorian H. Blair, of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Greensboro, N. C.; Prof. Mark C. Mills, of Guilford college, and Paul C. Lindley, of Pomona, N. C., and Prof. Mills also nominated the New Garden Oak.

At the battle of Guilford Court House, Cornwallis had three horses shot from under him. Gen. Greene, for whom Greensboro is named, was in command of the American forces which consisted of Huger's brigade of Virginia, Williams' Maryland and Delaware brigade, Continental Regulars, North Carolina militia, Virginia militia, "Light Horse," Harry Lee's Legion, Col. William Wash-

ington's Dragoons, Lee's Dragoons and cavalry.

Cornwallis retreated into Virginia and surrendered at Yorktown the following October. The Lafayette Elm planted in front of the Yorktown headquarters when Lafayette visited this country in 1824 is also in the hall of fame. The Guilford battlefield is now owned by the national park association, headed by Judge David Schenck in 1887 started plans for preserving the site.

Another nomination given a place of honor is the Kentucky Coffee tree in front of the Ver Planck mansion at Fishkill-on-Hudson, nominated by Cora June Sheppard of Shiloh, N. J. The tree was planted in 1834 on property acquired by the Ver Planck family during the reign of James II. King of England, in 1682. The property has remained with this family ever since. Baron Steuben occupied the mansion during the Revolution and under this tree the first meeting of the society of the Cincinnati was held. The tree is a magnificent specimen with two trunks 75 feet high.

A tree "adopted" by the Boy Scouts at Elizabethtown, Pa., is also given a place in the hall of fame. The tree is a prone Juniper, 80 years old and 45 feet in diameter. The limbs lie on the ground and do not take root. The nomination was made by George B. Orady, presiding judge of the superior court of Pennsylvania. The tree is at the Masonic Home and the Boy Scouts have built a fence around the remarkable specimen to protect it.

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Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

ETHEL MAY FEWRY.

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She was born in Covington, Ind., Jan. 3, 1856, and was 28 years old. She moved to this city from Attica, Ind., about two and a half years ago with her husband, James R. Fewry, to whom she was married April 14, 1914. Besides her husband she is survived by two children, Ethel Anita, and John Reginald Fewry, both living at the parental home. She also leaves one sister, Mrs. Ruby Stewart, a resident of this city.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

BULDA ANN TROYER. Mrs. Bulda Ann Troyer, 70 years old, a resident of this city for a number of years, died Saturday afternoon at 8 o'clock at her residence, 820 N. Lafayette Blvd., death having resulted from an illness of several months with cancer.

She was born in Marshall county, Dec. 26, 1852. She is survived by three sons, Benjamin and Charles of South Bend, and Samuel W., of Chicago. She also leaves two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Morschouse, South Bend, and Mrs. Clara Martin, Battle Creek, and two brothers, William Babcock, Walkerton, Ind., and Newton Babcock of South Bend.

EMBRYONIC T. N. T. CHIEF INGREDIENT IN ALL FOODSTUFF

Chemists Reveal Startling Facts of Explosibility of Carbonaceous Dusts.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—That loaf of bread you cut last night for your dinner at one time in its career possessed all the dangerous characteristics of T. N. T. The spices in the apple dumpling you ate for dessert once boasted an equally strong claim to dangerous propensities. The sugar you put on it to add to its tastiness had, and still has, the potentialities of dynamite.

Experts of the Bureau of Chemistry of the United States department of agriculture are authorities for these strong statements. But they say they might go further and add that the rice in your pudding was just as flimsy; that the napkin you use, if of cotton, the shirt on your back, if also made of cotton, the shoes on your feet and the rubbers over them, and finally, the coal which cooks your meal, were all at one time in their process of manufacture or preparation for your use, equally death dealing.

However, there's no need now to back away from any of them, they're tamed, the agricultural department chemists assert. The secret of their destructiveness is dust—the dust which is produced in their manufacture.

For a number of years department experts have been studying the explosibility of carbonaceous dusts, mostly for the education of manufacturers and workers in materials which produce such conditions, and surprising disclosures of general interest have been made.

It is just about a year since the largest grain elevator in the world, the North Western, at South Chicago, Illinois, was destroyed by the explosion of grain dust in work rooms and storage bins. Six workmen lost their lives in the disaster which wrought property damage estimated at \$2,000,000. While there have been many other similar explosions in elevators, four mills and plants producing a variety of articles, that one was the factor that brought the subject most strongly to public attention, the department says.

When wheat grains or other cereals are handled in bulk, friction produces quantities of fine dust, and when train-and-car loads are handled daily, the amount of this dust that accumulates about the plant on floors and projections is enormous. Dust clouds hang in the air. It has been determined by the experts that this dust produces with the air a mixture as flimsy and explosive as that formed in the carburetor of an automobile. It can generate gas explosions as powerful as those in rifle and gun barrels. All that is needed to start the destructive work is a spark. The spark or flame may start a glow fire, the flash travelling from dust grain to dust grain. It may travel through dust conveyors, corridors or blowers to distant parts of the plant, where, if sufficient pressure is built up the explosion occurs.

Dust explosions, government records show, have wrecked well built plants, thrown bodily loaded freight cars, turned into twisted skims of scrap strongly built steel structures moved heavy bins from their foundations, and in the case of the North Western, blown out concrete bin walls seven inches thick.

A long list of similar disasters in the hands of the government investigators and not all are from cereal dust explosions. An explosion of ordinary powdered table spices in a spice factory wrecked the factory, recently, exacted toll of six lives, injury to twice as many others and high property loss.

An explosion of powdered or confectioners' sugar, in an eastern refinery wrought damage estimated at \$1,000,000 and cost four lives. Breakfast cocoa precipitated in a thick cloud from burning bins in a factory fire exploded, adding to the wreckage of the plant and to the loss of lives and money.

Six girls working in a factory producing aluminum articles were burned to death when fine aluminum dust from their buffing machines exploded in their faces with a concussion heard two miles distant. Starch exploding in another factory resulted in 48 deaths and damages estimated at \$2,000,000.

Dust from hard rubber being ground to powder exploded in another instance, killing eight workmen and partly demolishing the plant. While handling cotton seed meal a Wisconsin plant was damaged by an explosion in that product and three workmen were killed.

Any number of explosions of light wood dust in wood working plants have been reported to the department. Leather dust, formed in process of manufacture, has also caused explosions; dust from various processes in paper and cotton mills, rice meal dust, feed dust and other grain dusts have all caused terrific explosions resulting in loss of life and property. Explosion of coal dust in mines has long been the bane of engineers and operators.

The government's study of dust explosions had resulted in the formulation of a series of safety rules. These include recommendations that the dust be prevented so far as possible and be quickly removed; machinery producing frictions be kept in repair and lubricated; machines generating static electricity be grounded, to be drained of electricity, and open flames such as matches lights and fires be eliminated.

ACCEPTS INVITATION.

CHICAGO, March 11.—Prest Harding has accepted an invitation to be the guest of the Royal Order of Moose during their annual convention at Mooseheart, Ill., the week of Aug. 20, it was announced today. Prest Harding will stop on his return trip from Alaska.

GRAND DUCHESS DIES.

NICE, France, March 11.—Grand Duchess Anastasia-Micholovna of Mecklenburg, mother of the queen of Denmark, died this afternoon at her villa at Eze, near Nice. She was born in 1850 a grand duchess of Russia.

Ravens pair for life and use the same nest year after year.

Finest emeralds are worth \$2,500 a carat.

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Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

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