

Americans Claim Innocence to Charges They Sold French Arms Secrets

POLICE HUNT 'BRAINS' OF MYSTERY BAND

PARIS, Dec. 22. (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Switz of East Orange, N. J., held in two separate prison cells, prepared today to face a French judge with the plea that they had been enmeshed innocently in a mysterious band of dealers in international military secrets.

The defense of innocence was outlined at a night conference between the American couple and Charles Moise, their lawyer, while French investigators dug into an immense accumulation of documents.

Hunt Invisible Powers

The investigators, operatives of the Surete Centrale, sought a clue to the invisible powers behind an organization they claim to be directed against the military power of France.

The secret service fears that the trails to the hidden sources of the alleged espionage have been cut by over-zealous police in a premature arrest of the mere tools of master minds. These trails, they said they believed, led to Finland and the frontier of Germany.

Secret service operatives said they thought it would require additional months of searching before they could reach the bottom of what appeared to be two distinct plots.

Commercial Spies

The suspicion that the band might have been a commercially organized espionage corporation buying secrets wherever obtainable and peddling them to the highest bidders, further confused the efforts made by the police to put their big puzzle together.

The black-haired, gypsy-featured Russian woman, Lidia Tshkaloff, Stahl, one of the police prisoners, was called a super-spy by the men who captured her.

They said she seemed to have had access to French military secrets through an infatuation by Louis Martin, 43, a translator in the ministry of marine.

Unlike motion-picture characterizations of female spies, Mme. Stahl is 48 years old with none of the characteristics of the traditional screen type. Nevertheless the police indicated that because of her, Martin found his monotonous middle-class of a professor of languages was invaded by adventure.

To Quiz Americans

The police gave out the impression that the cases of Mme. Stahl and Mr. and Mrs. Switz were separate.

The American couple will be the first of the accused to be questioned on the evidence obtained. The magistrate, M. Benon, said he would examine the couple Saturday in the presence of Switz's lawyer, as French law requires, on the basis of a deposition made by chief of detectives Martz. M. Martz has directed the military angles of the case.

EARNHARDT IS FREED IN TRIAL

(Special to The Herald)
EDINBURGH, Dec. 22.—Trial of George A. Earnhardt, McAllen developer, on charges of embezzlement and conversion, came to a close here late Wednesday when Judge Bryce Ferguson in the 92nd Criminal District Court ordered a jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

The indictments against Earnhardt were returned several months ago upon complaints filed by Dr. W. A. Smith of St. Louis, Mo., after negotiations with Earnhardt. The bills alleged that the McAllen men embezzled money sent him by the St. Louis physician. Judge Ferguson's order for an instructed verdict of not guilty was based on Dr. Smith's testimony that he had told Earnhardt over the telephone that he would accept property in lieu of the money he had sent the McAllen man, although Earnhardt had offered either to give him the money or its equivalent in property. Dr. Smith later declined to accept the proffered property for various reasons and filed the charges against Earnhardt.

At the age of 86, Thomas W. Brookbank, civil war veteran of Salt Lake City, spends some time daily at his typewriter pounding out books on history and religion.

First Brownsville Showing

10c **HURRY** Last DAY
The Comedy Hit
JAMES DUNN
JOAN BENNETT
in
15c **'ARIZONA TO BROADWAY'**
— At the —
QUEEN Phone 162

Dittmann
Today — Tomorrow
'IGLOO'
The Strangest Adventure Ever Filmed
CARTOON — COMEDY
Admission — 10c

SHE'S DOIN' HIM WRONG



America's celebrated flamin' Mae West does a bit of first-class ogling in her latest opus, Paramount's "I'm No Angel," which opens Saturday at the Rivoli Theatre. Look at that "sparkler" on the "sucker's" little finger. Think Mae'll get it? You bet your boots she will.

Yuletide Bonuses Finding Way Back To Many Workers

(By The Associated Press)

Wall Street, once a lavish Santa Claus, is letting the rest of the country set the pace in Christmas bonuses this year.

Slim profits in the brokerage and banking business are cited as the reason "the Street" is unable to revive its gayer days when the payment of bonuses was a year-end custom.

The largest Christmas bonus so far announced for this year in Wall Street is that of Redmond and Company, a stock exchange firm which will give employees bonuses equivalent to twenty per cent of each employee's yearly wage.

Some houses of Wall Street indicated that the question of bonuses to clerical workers would be decided tomorrow. A few firms already have announced that bonus of one or two weeks' pay will be tucked into the stockings of their workers.

Firms in other parts of the United States are generally following the rule of depression years during which the Yuletide payment of extra compensation has, for the most part been abandoned. There are, however, some significant exceptions.

One Atlanta, Ga., investment firm, Brooke, Tindall and Co., has announced it will give employees bonuses equivalent to 12 1/2 per cent of the employee's annual salary. The firm was organized in the summer of 1932.

In Chicago the Tribune resumed its "regular" bonus rate after having omitted bonus payments in 1931-32.

The Homestake Mining Co., with headquarters at Lead, S. D., is giving bonus checks of \$50 to each of its 2,200 employees. The Oklahoma Tie and Supply Co., is dividing a \$10,000 Christmas present among 150 employees in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas.

D. D. Pedon, president of the Peden Co., a Houston, Tex., hardware concern, announced that net profits this year permitted resumption of the practice of paying bonuses—a practice interrupted by the market crash of 1929. The amount paid was

not made public. The Duncan Coffee Co., another Houston firm, also announced bonuses would be paid.

SANTA CLAUS
Will make a personal appearance and distribute candy at the regular meeting of the

MICKEY MOUSE CLUB
Saturday Morning
Dec. 23, 10 a. m.

— At Your —
CAPITOL
Brownsville

CAPITOL
Brownsville
SUNDAY Only
Preview Sat. Nite

Women
in
HIS LIFE
with Otto Kruger

Heart-warming romance... Climax... on the heels of climax... Combined in the year's dramatic surprise.

Come to the
8 P. M. Show
Saturday Nite
and Remain as Our
Guest for
The Preview
at 10 P. M.
SEE 2 SHOWS

Merry Christmas !!!

FAILURE TO SELL BONDS HALTS RELIEF

AUSTIN, Dec. 22. (AP)—Texas' relief program was virtually at a standstill today as a result of the state's inability to dispose of its full \$2,750,000 bond issue, authorized for the purpose of succoring the needy. Funds were about depleted and the federal government had refused to advance any more money.

The state bond commission, charged with sale of the securities, received bids for \$1,017,500 worth when proposals were considered yesterday. It was possibly additional bids were in the mail.

Ma's Plea Fails

Banks, insurance companies and individuals offered to purchase the bonds, after a prior advertised sale failed to bring in a single offer. Offers were made to buy blocks of bonds varying from \$1,000 to \$250,000.

After the bonds had failed to attract any takers a month ago, Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson undertook to interest bankers and others in them.

The federal government notified the governor that it would not advance the state any more funds. The government had advanced \$3,000,000 for relief in the state since October with an agreement that as soon as proceeds of the bond issue were available Texas would spend a similar amount. The government had promised to match each relief dollar expended by Texas.

Get No Others

Lawrence Westbrook, director of the Texas Relief Commission, which administers relief money, wired county administrators that no further direct federal relief would be available when present

funds and supplies are exhausted. He estimated all funds and supplies would be dissipated within three or four days.

Westbrook estimated that a final tabulation of the bids received after a maturity basis were eliminated, would show that offers had been received for not more than \$750,000 worth of the securities.

Presents Distributed At Kiwanis Luncheon

(Special to The Herald)

SAN BENITO, Dec. 22.—San Benito Kiwanians enjoyed one of the first Christmas parties of the year Wednesday when Rev. L. A. Boone, Harlingen Methodist, made a talk on Christmas and presents were distributed. The gifts later were gathered up and will be given local children who otherwise might not receive presents this Christmas.

Dr. R. E. L. Mewshaw, who presided, announced a ladies night program to be held in two weeks. Visitors included O. C. Dancy, Brownsville Kiwanian; H. R. Jenkins, James Black, Victor H. Metz, former president of the local club, and W. E. Bailey.

CHINA PLANS FIERCE DRIVE ON REVOLTERS

SHANGHAI, Dec. 22. (AP)—An

officially inspired report that the nationalist government was launching a combined land and sea thrust against the rebel government which has established itself in Fukien province was given wide play today in Chinese newspapers. The reports stated that the nationalist government's armies along the western and northern borders of Fukien were poised for a drive on Foochow, heavily-fortified capital of the province and seat of the revolutionary government. The nationalist government's fleet, consisting of a group of gunboats, was ordered to steam to North Fukien, land troops there and attack the rebels from the rear. The reports said Chiang Kai-

Shek had abandoned for the time being his intensive campaign against the rebels in Kiangsi province and had arrived by airplane at the Fukien border to lead his land forces in person. These reports and many others were considered a part of a Nanking propaganda campaign, while it was believed that in reality hostilities were as far away as ever and political bickering continued between the Nanking regime and the cessionists.

Trade Groups Busy Organizing to NRA

(Special to The Herald)

SAN BENITO, Dec. 22.—Organization of local trade groups under the NRA continues apace. Grocersmen got together this week and elected M. J. Dodson chairman with Mrs. Ethel H. Finks and the Retail Merchants Ass'n. as secretary. They will meet first Tuesday in every month.

Furniture men organized with R. E. Milantek as chairman and Mrs. Finks as secretary. They will meet the second Monday in every month. The feed and seed group has chosen Charles Herndon, chairman, with W. S. Brock secretary. Dry goods and drug groups will be organized shortly.

Vets Sell Trees

(Special to The Herald)

SAN BENITO, Dec. 22.—Annual sale of Christmas trees is being conducted by Sam Jackson Post of the American Legion here. The trees have been placed in the gas company offices. The Retail Merchants Ass'n. has urged local merchants to decorate their stores with Christmas trees as they have done in the past.

Feminine residents of Seattle, Wash., wore sunbonnets to mark the eighty-second anniversary of the founding of the city.

Seed Potatoes

Better Seed at
Cheaper Prices
See
Fred F. Adkins
Riverside Hotel
Phone 871
Brownsville, Texas

SHOP HERE FOR HOLIDAY SAVINGS Christmas Food Values

SANTA CLAUS IS HERE!

Santa Claus is at Jitney Jungle . . . not in person, but all the good things to eat that make Christmas such a joyous season. Make your Christmas gift a food greeting. Food gifts are always highly appreciated; and too, your own holiday requirements can all be filled right here at the most attractive prices.

The Following Prices are Good in All Valley Jitney Jungle Stores and in Home Cash Grocery, Brownsville, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 22 and 23

ROYAL GELATINE Quick Setting RASPBERRY FLAVOR Royal Quick Setting Per Pkg. 5c	COFFEE Maxwell House Pound 27c
CRISCO Three-pound Can 53c	BUTTER Brookfield, 1-pound Carton for 20c
TEA Lipton's Yellow Label 1/4-Lb. Can 18c	EXTRACTS Bee Brand Assorted Flavors Large Size 18c Small Size 10c
Gift Boxes for Men Five Necessary Toilet Articles for Men, per box— 79c	COFFEE Chase & Sanborn's in the Bag PER LB. 23c
MACARONI and SPAGHETTI Skinner's, Three packages .. 19c	WESSON OIL Pint Can 19c
FLOUR GOLD MEDAL Twenty Four Pound Sack ... \$1.07	SUGAR Old Fashioned Brown or Powdered, 2-lb. pkgs. only 15c TOMATO JUICE, Clinton, 12 1/2-oz. can 7 1/2c JELLO, All Flavors, each only 5c POST TOASTIES, large pkg. 11c
TIDBIT TRAY For 2 Toppings from 2 Packages of Softasilk The CAKE FLOUR Mail Toppings to Softasilk, Minneapolis, Minn. A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR THE CAKE MAKER 31c	MIRACLE WHIP SALAD DRESSING Pint jar ... 17c Quart jar ... 29c

PABST GINGERALE 12-oz. bottle 10c 26-oz. bottle 15c	YORKSHIRE PUMPKIN No. 2 Can 12c No. 2 1/2 Can 15c	EDWARD'S MARSHMALLOWS 1/2-lb. Cello. bag 9c 1-lb. Cello. bag .. 17c	OLIVES, Queens, quart, each 33c BAKING POWDER, ROYAL, 6-oz. can 19c POTATOES, Brown Beauties, per lb. 2c RAISINS, Choice Seedless, 1-lb. pkg. 7c APPLES, Fancy Winesaps, per dozen 15c	ORANGES, Valley Navels, per dozen 15c RICE, Fancy Full Grain, per pound only 4 1/2c LETTUCE, Firm Crisp Heads, each only 6c CELERY, Fancy Jumbo Stalks, each only 10c CRANBERRIES, Fancy Cape Cod, per lb. 15c SWEET POTATOES, Yellow Yams, 3 lbs. for 10c MINCE MEAT, Nonesuch, 9-oz. pkg. 14c MINUTE TAPIOCA, 8-oz. pkg. 12c SWANSDOWN RAISIN MIX, 2 1/2-lb. pkg. 32c COCOA, Baker's Premium, 1-lb. can 18c CRANBERRY SAUCE, Ocean Spray, 17-oz. can 17c PEAS, Early Garden, No. 2 can 16c OYSTERS, Niggerhead, 5-oz. can 18c KARO, Red or Blue Label, 5-lb. can 32c PICKLES, Sour or Dill, 26-oz. jar 15c PICKLES, Sweet or Sweet Mix, 26-oz. jar 21c SARDINES, King Oscar, quarters, 2 cans only 35c PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE, 2 pkgs. only 15c GRAPE JELLY, Rosemary, 16-oz. jar only 18c CRACKERS, N. B. C. Excels, 2-lb. box 22c INDIA RELISH, Heinz, medium jar 18c CAMPBELL'S VEGETABLE SOUP, Vegetable Beef or Tomato Soup, 3 cans for only 25c
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Complete Stock Oysters, Turkeys, Hens and Fryers. Also Complete Stock of Beautiful Christmas Trees, Fire Works and Christmas Candies, and Nuts.

QUALITY FRESH and CURED MEATS

ROUND or LOIN STEAK, per pound 17c PURE PORK SAUSAGE, per pound 12 1/2c FRESH PORK HAM, Boneless, no fat, lb. 17c PORK SHOULDER ROAST, Whole or Shank half, per pound 11c FANCY SLICED BACON, per pound 19c SLICED BACON, Rind on, per pound 15c BEEF or VEAL STEW, per pound 7 1/2c	HAMS, Sugar Cured Half or Whole, No Bone or Fat, per pound 19c CHOICE BEEF CHUCK ROAST, per pound 12c CHOICE VEAL CHUCK ROAST, per lb. 10c RUMP, SHOULDER, ROUND or PRIME RIB ROAST, per pound 14c Fresh Dressed, Fat and Tender Turkeys Also Fresh Oysters
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JITNEY JUNGLE "SAVE A NICKEL ON A QUARTER"

"WHERE THE RIO GRANDE BUYS ITS FOODS"