

Devine Girl Exonerates Ex-Convict

'This Is Not The Man,' She Says—Hunt For Kidnap Resumed

LODI, Calif.,—AP—Alice Dean Devine today met and exonerated Earl Shelton, a San Francisco ex-convict and studio operator, in her kidnapping, and her search was resumed for a smooth-talking, middle-aged man who held her a day and demanded \$10,000 ransom. 'This is not the man,' declared the pretty and popular 17-year-old Lodi high school student upon confronting Shelton.

Her mother, Mrs. John Edward Devine, who said she had seen the man who sent for Alice Dean to have her picture taken Monday night when the girl disappeared, joined in exonerating Shelton.

The girl returned home Tuesday night unharmed except for minor bruises and told police she had freed herself from rope bonds and escaped from an auto court in the absence of her captor.

Shelton, 40-year-old operator of a photographic and modeling studio in San Francisco, came to Lodi voluntarily with Lodi police Sergeant Pat Coon last night to be cleared by the girl. She earlier had said his picture "looked like" her kidnaper.

He met Alice Dean and other members of the wealthy Devine family secretly at 2 a.m. on a rural road west of here and confronted her in the glare of automobile headlights.

Coon arranged the meeting and accompanied Shelton later to an interview with reporters at the Lodi police station.

Shelton said little at the interview and departed soon after for San Francisco. He was not under arrest or detention in the case. Earlier his explanation of his whereabouts was backed up by 30 models who said they were taking a dancing lesson from him Monday at the time of the girl's disappearance.

Alice Dean disappeared after she had gone to a photographic studio here to have her picture taken for what was told would be part of a series of national magazine articles on the typical American girl in high school.

She was returned to her home 28 hours later by the California state patrol after having spent a night in a motor court near Sacramento trussed on a bed, she said, while her abductor smoked cigars and watched over her.

Shown pictures of Shelton yesterday, she was quoted by Lodi police Chief Millard L. Fore as saying that the picture "resembled" the man who held her captive. Earlier Sacramento police Captain M. W. Linckum, who sent a Sacramento officer to Lodi with the picture, said the girl was "positive in her identification."

Byrd Helicopter Lost Over Side

LITTLE AMERICA —AP—

A new helicopter of the Antarctic expedition crashed into the Pacific Ocean today on a takeoff from the carrier *Phillipine Sea* but all aboard were rescued uninjured, Admiral Cruzan announced.

(Names or number of the rescued men were not reported, but it is presumed the helicopter was of the usual two-seater type used for survey flights.)

The helicopter was the third plane lost by this expedition. The first was a PBM Mariner which crashed with three fatalities December 30. The second was a wheeled helicopter from the *Pine Island* of the eastern group, which was lost Sunday because its rotors became iced. Its two occupants were rescued.

The wheeled helicopter lost today was starting a reconnaissance flight in good weather when it suddenly went overboard from the carrier.

Truman Ignores Race Pickets To Enter Jim Crow Theatre

WASHINGTON —AP— Eight pickets failed to keep the Truman family and their party from a performance of "Blossom Time" at the National Theater last night.

The "Committee for Racial Democracy in the Nation's Capital" promptly issued a statement declaring Press Secretary Charles Ross and the Secret Service had sought to "effect the sneak entrance of the President of the United States into a Jim Crow theater."

Marine Leader Dies



General Roy S. Geiger

WASHINGTON — AP — Lieutenant General Roy S. Geiger, one of the top Marine Corps leaders of World War, No. 2, died today in Bethesda (Md.) naval hospital.

His death came only eight days before he was due to retire from active service. He was 61.

Geiger, who commanded the 10th Army on Okinawa and later the Fleet Marine Force in the Pacific, entered the hospital last Thursday. Physicians said he suffered from inflammation of the veins and pulmonary complications. Geiger entered the Marines as an enlisted man and rose to general rank during 40 years of service in both world wars and assignments around the globe.

Senate Votes War Inquiry

WASHINGTON —AP— Senate Democrats who came within two votes of upstaging Republican plans in the 80th Congress' first test posted notice today that they will have their big artillery ready for future GOP proposals.

Senator Lucas of Illinois, minority whip, said yesterday's 47 to 48 vote by which the Republicans bent off an attempt to scuttle the Brewster committee is merely a sample of a new sort of Democratic unity.

"We lost but we showed the Republican they have to watch their step on what they propose," Lucas declared.

But Senator Wherry of Nebraska, majority whip, retorted that the Republicans aren't particularly worried. He noted the final tally was 49 to 43 to keep the Brewster committee in operation, after the previous closer vote had defeated an attempt to turn over all war fraud inquiries to the expenditures committee.

"I think the Democrats have reached their peak and I doubt that they'll ever again be able to line up as many of their own members or get as much Republican support," Wherry said.

The chief job of the two whips—Lucas and Wherry—is to try to keep their party lines intact on major issues.

Pennsylvania To End Rationing Of Whiskey

HARRISBURG, Pa. —AP— The State Liquor Control Board has announced whiskey rationing will end in Pennsylvania at the close of business Saturday, after more than three years of war-time restrictions.

The board said the routine of rationing will be abolished, but for a time it will continue control over Scotch, Canadian, Irish and bottled-in-bond whiskeys. These scarce items, it said, will be distributed one bottle to a customer, with distribution dates announced to the public from time to time.

Retail licensees—taverns and hotels—will receive fair and proportionate share of scarce liquors, the board added.

Meat, Beer Pinch Grows In Britain

LONDON —AP— Austerity-ridden Britons learned today they are to get less fresh meat and less beer and that cuts in bread and bacon rations may be necessary soon.

This bad news to millions now eating poorer fare than they did during the worst war years brought a scorching attack on the labor government, with Lord Woolton the wartime food minister, declaring in parliament's "live high time" the people had a break in this debilitating austerity.

Volpe Likely To Be Named Prosecutor

Vine Leads Field For Court, Bohlinger For County Job

Endorsement of City District Court Judge Mario Volpe for appointment as Mercer County prosecutor is expected at a session tonight of Republican leaders. The term of Prosecutor Walker D. Coughle, Democrat, expires February 17.

The executive committee of the county organization is meeting at the home of Mrs. Ann Perrine Bowman. Volpe is the overwhelming choice of leaders.

Phillip S. Vine, county counsel, is in line to succeed Volpe as district court judge. George Bohlinger Jr., Ewing Township solicitor, will get the nod, it is indicated, for the county counsel berth vacated by Vine.

Differences which for a time threatened the naming of Bohlinger appear to have been ironed out. Some of the freeholders were insistent upon making their own selection as counsel, if Vine was proposed. It is said now the committee selection will be acceptable.

Arthur Lane and Frank Lawton have strong support for positions on the new prosecutor's staff. Lane is proposed for first assistant and Lawton as legal assistant.

Trio Indicted For Sale Of Fake Scotch

Three men have been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury here on charges of selling bogus Scotch whiskey in bottles bearing counterfeit revenue stamps.

Their alleged operations along the Jersey coast last Summer included the Spring Lake Country Club, where one of the indicted men, Charles Fortenbacher, 52, has been the manager.

After evidence was presented by John Waldron, an assistant district attorney, the grand jury also voted indictments against Thomas "Leggs" Gianatos, 58, of Lakewood, and Burnest G. Jones, 36, of East Orange. All are held under bond. Gianatos is associated in management of the "Leggs and Mathis" tavern on the Boulevard at Seaside Heights.

Credit for uncovering the alleged operations, which appeared to have been spreading among the seashore resorts last Summer, was given by Waldron to agents of the Federal Alcohol Beverage Unit in Newark, particularly to Ralph E. Dell, a special investigator.

The assistant district attorney said Dell discovered Jones, a truck driver for a delivery service, was allegedly peddling fake liquor at stops on his routes. He was traced to an apartment in New York, where he allegedly obtained the whiskey. Federal chemists determined it was flavored alcohol, Waldron said.

Agents allegedly found some of the whiskey at the two places and when they seized Jones' truck it reportedly had six cases of the liquor aboard.

Million Damage In Phila. Blaze

PHILADELPHIA — AP — Fanned by high winds, a raging five-alarm fire last night swept through four downtown Philadelphia stores injuring four persons—and forced 1,200 patrons of the nearby Keith theater to flee. Origin of the blaze was not determined.

Officials of the stores involved estimated damage at nearly \$1,000,000.

The blaze, which temporarily threatened an entire business block on fashionable Chestnut Street, started in the Crawford furniture shop. Owners of these establishments were unable to give a monetary estimate but said damage was "considerable."

Three of the injured were firemen. The fourth was a bystander struck in the eye by a piece of fire equipment.

Speculation In Replacement Tax Proposal

Gross Receipts Levy, Tapping Of Rents Possibilities

New Jersey taxpayers, pondering the problem of what taxes Governor Alfred E. Driscoll will propose to replace personal property taxes, found today that any substitutes must produce at least \$25,000,000 to make up for abolition of the locally-imposed personal levy.

Most fiscal authorities, however, look for a much greater yield to the state from a replacement imposed because local property taxes will have been partially wiped out for municipalities. Driscoll recommended that municipalities be permitted "an overlay of an additional low rate on the replacement base."

Boys Rescued From Bed During Fire



Still bundled in blankets in which they were carried yesterday from their sickbed when fire swept an apartment at 1109 Division Street, brothers William Kenney Jr., 7; left and Thomas, 6, are shown with their grandmother, Mrs. Hanna Gaze, 65. Parents of the boys, William and Lillian Kenney, are seeking quarters for the family. Six months ago they were evicted from a house on Park Lane. Since then they have shared three rooms at the Division Street address. The boys attend the Harrison School. Temporarily they are living with relatives at Adelina and Elm Streets. The mother of the boys was attending a funeral and returned home to find them safe in a neighbor's house and her own apartment gutted by the fire.

Teacher Here Hit By Pupil

The striking of a Trenton Central High School teacher yesterday by a 16-year-old sophomore student was under investigation today by police.

According to Dr. Paul R. Spencer, principal of the high school, the teacher is John F. Kelsey, 59, of 505 Maple Avenue. He was struck on the face yesterday afternoon in a corridor of the high school building by the student.

Kelsey, who teaches French, was in charge of the school detention room where several boys were seated for disciplinary reasons. Kelsey reprimanded one of the boys and was given a decisive laugh by the student involved in the corridor scuffle, Dr. Spencer said.

Then Kelsey ordered the boy out of the room to go to the office of the vice principal. Another remark followed from the student, Dr. Spencer related. Kelsey attempted to halt the boy and talk to him. At that moment the boy dropped his books and punched Kelsey's nose, Dr. Spencer said.

Butter Prices Here Drop To 65 Cents

Retail butter prices in Trenton dropped within two cents of the former OPA ceiling today with leading stores featuring the precious commodity at 65 cents a pound.

In announcing the four cent reduction the stores pointed out that "solid pounds" would sell for 65 cents and "quartered-pounds" at 67 cents.

The new prices will prevail in all self-service markets in South Jersey, Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware. Metropolitan New York chain stores were selling butter at 63 cents today.

Rider's Continental Army Set For Delaware Crossing Today

George (General Washington) Chafey was nursing a bad cold last night, but he insisted he would be fit and ready to lead his "Continental Army" across the Delaware today to attack the "Hessians" at Trenton.

Chafey, who hails from Allentown, is one of 40 pledges of Phi Sigma Nu fraternity at Rider College who will reenact the historic events of Christmas Eve, 1776, this afternoon. Classes at the college have been suspended for the afternoon. Several busloads of students will journey to Washington Crossing to cheer the pledges on.

Garbed in Revolutionary War uniforms the pledges will push off into the ice-filled river from the Pennsylvania shore at 2:30 p.m. After landing on the Jersey side they will march on Trenton to encounter the "Hessians," a group of fraternity brothers who will be wearing the red coats of the Prussian army.

Every available rowboat in the vicinity of Washington Crossing has been commandeered for the venture. The Titusville Rescue Squad and a detachment of the Trenton Fire Department will be on hand to safeguard the crossing. A "dry run" was scheduled before the main event, to test the will of the current so that the "Continental" would be sure of landing at the right spot on the Jersey bank.

Chafey as General Washington will, of course, be in the leading boat, standing in the traditional Washington pose. Joseph Brédard, of Morristown, will portray General Sullivan, and William Clark of Skaneateles, N. Y., will be General Greene.

The role of the scout depicted in the famous painting of the crossing will be taken by Theodore Genola of North Long Branch. Genola will be dressed in authentic buckskin uniform with coonskin hat and powder horn.

After reaching the Jersey shore, the attacking force will move to the Bear Tavern, where "Washington" will plan his strategy for the attack on Trenton. Two horses have been obtained for the march on the city, but just who will ride them, has not yet been decided.

Aged Man, Wife Are Rescued In Gas-Filled Room

Walks In Path Of Bus, Suffers Fatal Injuries

Police Seek To Establish Identity Of Victim

Only tentatively identified, a 35-year-old man died early today in St. Francis Hospital after walking into the path of a bus last night.

An attendance record from the Bronx Vocational School found in the man's pocket bore the name of Robert Reynolds. New York police were contacted by teletype and are attempting to locate relatives of the man through school records.

The accident happened at 5:30 p.m. on Perry Street between Ewing and Southard, police said. Paul Restler, 35, of 233 Morris Avenue, driver of the Trenton Transit Company bus, said the man's head struck the windshield of the vehicle. He told police the pedestrian had walked from between two parked cars into the path of the bus.

A police ambulance took the victim to the hospital. A skull fracture caused his death nine hours later.

Restler was released in custody of Robert J. Costigan of the Transit Company to await further action by police.

Radio Patrolmen Weidmann and Fowler investigated at the scene, as did Patrolman Ellis of the traffic bureau.

Germ Warfare Gag Tightens

WASHINGTON — AP — The Army, started by public discussions of germ warfare in recent months, has cloaked the whole subject under a "no talk" policy.

While the desire for secrecy is understood to be an important factor in banning further reference to a weapon rated by some scientists as equal to the atomic bomb, some quarters in the Army also have been concerned over what they regard as extravagant statements about research progress.

This attitude is in line with a prevailing school of thought at the Pentagon—that the public is placing too much confidence in "push button warfare" when much of it still is in the laboratory or drawing board stage.

However, instructions which have come from top levels prevent bacteriological warfare experts from explaining their reasons for believing the present status of the weapon is overrated in the public mind.

The War Department during the past year, has officially disclosed some information bearing on its research in germ warfare. This has included the fact that (A) the study has been centered at Camp Detrick, near Frederick, Md., and (B) that both laboratories and a "pilot plant" were built there during the war.

The reference to a "pilot plant" has been assumed to mean that some of the toxic agents had reached the point of development where they were ready for mass production if ever needed.

In general, the program has been two-fold: (1) to perfect means of combating mass attack on the United States with poison warfare and (2) to devise means of retaliation.

The development of germs and other poisons suitable for military use has been directed not only at man, but against animals and plants to permit destruction of food supplies.

Jap 'Sun Goddess' Jailed, Wrestler Follower Subdued

KANAZAWA, Japan — AP — that he battered police with chairs and clubs. He finally was subdued by a Judo expert after seriously injuring several policemen. Futabayama was loaded into a fire engine and taken to jail, along with Jiko and several of her followers.

Police said Jiko, 44, is the eldest daughter of Marquis Ikeda of Okayama prefecture but changed her name to Yoshiko Nagaoke. She swooned in September, 1934, and thereafter declared herself transformed into a living sun goddess who never grows old or ill and who never dies.

Police said she has a hypnotic influence over her followers, who give her an amazing 250,000 yen (\$17,000) monthly plus rice and goods. They said her followers utterly disregard all advice except hers.

Couple Found Unconscious; Husband, 82 In Critical Condition

An aged couple was overcome by gas last night in an apartment at 107 Second Street.

Found unconscious by another tenant, Nathan Atkinson, 82, was revived after 40 minutes' work by police and firemen. Today he was in a critical condition under an oxygen tent in St. Francis Hospital.

His wife, Mrs. Rae Atkinson, 59, was revived and is convalescing at home.

The plight of the couple, who live alone in the apartment, was discovered by George Ingebrandt, 32, who lives in the rear of the apartment. He hurried to Engine Company No. 2 on South Broad at Bridge Street. Acting Captain Miller sent an engine and inhalator to the scene. Operators Jewel and Parker of the Electrical Bureau relayed a message for an ambulance and a second inhalator. Reserve Officer O'Brien and Chauffeur Zelly were dispatched from police headquarters.

Dr. E. J. Ugrady, who was passing the scene at the time, gave aid to the police and firemen working over the unconscious couple.

Dr. S. W. Chandler advised relatives of Atkinson that he should be admitted to the hospital for further treatment after being revived. The police ambulance took the man to the hospital.

The police investigation disclosed that Mrs. Atkinson had tried to use the oven in the kitchen for heat during last night's temperature drop. The gas was flowing from the open jets without being ignited.

Bevin Was Quoted Right, Says Pravda

MOSCOW — AP — Pravda denied today the British government's charge that it had misinterpreted Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin when it accused him of repudiating the British-Russian treaty of alliance in a December 22 speech.

"The claim made by the government of Great Britain says one thing, and the facts show the opposite," Pravda declared in an editorial. "We prefer to hold to the facts."

The editorial was accompanied by the full text of a note which the British foreign office delivered to the Russian government last week protesting as "most misleading" an article which appeared in Pravda on January 12.

Pravda not only denied that it had misinterpreted Bevin but likewise denied that it had quoted him "out of context," as charged by the British foreign office.

De Gasperi Forms Another Cabinet

ROME — AP — Alcide de Gasperi, Christian Democratic leader, embarked today on the task of forming a new cabinet. Italy's third in little over a year.

He scheduled his first conference with Giuseppe Saragat of the new Italian Laborers' Socialist Party. Observers generally predicted that De Gasperi would aim at a middle-of-the-road cabinet based on co-operation with this party.

De Gasperi, who resigned the premiership only last Monday, came out of a three-quarter-hour conference with President Enrico De Nicola last night and announced: "The president has asked me to form a new government."

De Gasperi's old cabinet, consisting of Christian Democrats, Communists, Socialists and Republicans, was in power six months. In submitting his resignation he asserted his belief that the government could not be efficient unless all parties assumed "loyal obligations."

Somewhat Warmer Weather Expected

Cold weather continued in Trenton today but there was a promise from the weatherman that it will moderate a little during the next 24 hours.

The temperature descended to 18 degrees this morning, four higher than yesterday's lowest mark which incidentally, was the coldest so far this winter.

Readings in the 50's were reported as far north as Nebraska and Missouri yesterday. In Chicago, which had a low of about 4 above yesterday, the temperature will climb to 45 degrees today, the weather bureau predicted.

Caribou, Me., had a low of 14 below zero last night. Freezing temperatures were reported as far south as Florida, where Jacksonville had 29 and Ocala 28. Light snow was falling from Upper Michigan eastward to Western New York state.