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The Watauga Building and Loan Association

YOUTH CONFESSES BRUTAL KIDNAPING

Victim Passed Along While the Kidnapers Were Waiting for Another Boy to Come.

Chicago, June 7th.—A plan by two rich youths, both brilliant students, to kill for excitement and to kidnap for a ransom which they did not need was revealed last night in the detailed confession of Natham Leopold, Jr who with his boon companion Richard Loeb, was named today in true bills charging murder and kidnaping for ransom in connection with the slaying of 13 year old Robert Franks.

The confession which was presented to the grand jury today, was made public tonight by Robert E. Crowe, state's attorney.

"We planned as long as last November I guess," the confession said "The process of getting the money was the most difficult problem. We had several different plans and all were good for one reason or another. Finally we hit on the one to throw the money from a train after we had the given point marked.

"The next problem was the system of notification. We had a plan of a number of relays. The thing was to tell the man that his son was kidnaped and held for ransom.

"He was to secure \$10,000 in denominations as follows: '\$8,000 in \$50 bills and \$2,000 in \$20 bills. We were to get old bills so that the numbers would not be in sequence. The money was to be put in a cigar box and wrapped with white paper and taped, and the ends were to be sealed with sealing wax. The reason for this was to give the impression that it was to be delivered personally to a messenger of a certain executive of the plans. He was then to receive a telephone call instructing him to go to a refuse box and he was there to get a note instructing him to proceed to a drug store and wait near the phone booth. The store was to be near the Illinois Central tracks and he was to be given only time to rush out to the depot and board a through train and not have time to notify a detective or the police where he was going.

"In the train he was to proceed to the rear of the car where the telegraph blanks were kept and there he was to be instructed to go to the back platform and face east until he came to a large brick factory that had a water tower on it with the white inscription Champion. He was to count two or three and then throw the box as far east as he could.

"The next problem was to get the victim and we were undecided until that day. Then we decided to take the most likely looking subject who came our way. It just happened to be Robert Franks. Richard was acquainted with him and he called him over and introduced him to me and then he asked Robert to go for a ride.

The Frank's boy demurred, Leopold's confession continued, and Loeb told him he wanted to show him a tennis racquet, upon which Robert got into the car.

"I got into the car then" the confession continued and stepped on the gas and we proceeded. As we turned around the corner Richard put one hand over his mouth and beat him on the head. He did not succumb as readily as we had expected and Richard pulled him to the back seat and forced a club or gag into his mouth. I guess he was instantly suffocated.

"The body was covered with an automobile robe which we brought along for the purpose. We drove around up and down the road and then proceeded on the path toward Hegeswisch. We had previously removed the shoes, stockings and the trousers.

"We left the shoes at the side of the road in the grass. When we reached our destination we put the body down on the grass and removed

the rest of the clothes and poured acid on the face of the boy to make identification more difficult. We put the body in the drain pipe and pushed it in as far as we could. We gathered up the clothes and placed them in the robe and apparently at this point the glasses fell from my pocket.

We carried the robe and the clothes to the automobile which was about 300 yards distant and the sock must have dropped from the bundle.

After describing the route they took back to the city, he said:

"I called the Franks house. I told Mrs. Franks that I was George Johnson and that her son had been kidnaped and was safe and that instructions would follow. In passing 55th street we mailed a special delivery letter which we had complete except the address. After that I returned home to take my uncle Nat home. I returned to my home then and after my father returned, Richard and I proceeded to his home where we burned the remaining clothes.

"We wrapped up the road and washed the blood spot from the car and parked it near my home. The next day we went to the Illinois Central and Richard bought a ticket for Michigan City and deposited the letter in the telegraph blank box. In the meantime I called Mr. Franks and told him to proceed immediately to a drug store and wait at a telephone booth for a definite call. I told him that a cab would come to the door to take him. I repeated the number twice and he asked if he could not be given more time to reply and I said no it must be done immediately. By the time I got through telephoning Richard returned and we started south. We chanced to see a paper on a stand and we deliberated for a few moments to plan what to do and Richard said the game was up but I insisted that it would do no harm to call the drug store and see if Franks was there. I did and I was told he was not there."

He then told of a call made later and continued:

We got the same reply and gave it up as a bad job and returned to the car which we had rented."

He said the original plan to place instructions in a waste box on the street corner was discarded when they found it difficult to make the letter stick to the side of the box.

"Thursday after dinner, the confession continued, "we went to the garage to wash the blood stains and our chauffeur: Sven Englund, came out and asked to help and Richard told him the spots were merely red wine that had spilt."

Under questioning, the confession then recited that the youths had gone out on the day of the kidnaping with the deliberate intention of kidnaping some one and had rented a car to divert suspicion, having previously established credit by having one of the boys register at a hotel as Mr. Ballard, while the other boy gave Mr. Ballard as reference, his companion giving the boy a high financial rating. The confession also related that the youths had opened bank accounts at various banks under assumed names in order to divert suspicion in case they were forced to flee and needed to travel under fictitious names.

On the afternoon of the kidnaping the confession continued, the boys watched some children playing in a field through field glasses for some time to try to determine who should be their victim. They contemplated taking a youth named Levinson, son of a wealthy attorney, the confession said, adding that the Franks boy happened along first and they decided to abduct him instead. After going home the night of the kidnaping, the confession related that the boys enjoyed several games of cards before going to bed. The next day they threw the chisel with which they beat Franks over the head into the street as they drove about in the death car and also went to a lonely prairie where they tried to

burn the automobile robe used to cover their victim, the confession said.

The ransom letter, the confession related, had been prepared several days in advance and was complete except for the name of the person to whom it was to be sent which could not be written on the envelope until the victim was selected.

The confession also declared it had been the intention of the boys from the first to kill their victim because they feared he would expose them and they intended to hide the money for a year and then spend it carefully.

FAMOUS OLD STREET IS BEING WIDENED

Boston Landmarks Vanish in Street Improvement.

Boston.—Sunlight has returned to Governor's alley, which for 91 years has been known to Boston as Province street. The little, narrow thoroughfare, with its 15-inch sidewalks on either side, runs through a part of the city rich in tradition. Crossing from Bromfield street to School street, parallel to Washington and Tremont streets, the old roadway may be best remembered by visitors by the picturesque flight of stone steps leading down to it from one end of Bosworth street.

The street is now being widened, letting in the sunshine where for so many years the shadows have lain heavily under the close, high walls. Landmarks have gone by the board in the work of improvement.

Province Inn Vanishes.

A pathetic old sign, "Province Inn," which once stood for mirth and joviality, liquid and other refreshment, which clung to a partly dismantled wall to the last, was one of the landmarks to go.

Unless efforts being made to save them prove successful, the old stone steps, surmounted by their ornamental iron arch and lamp, are doomed to go also.

The old street for 130 years bore the name Governor's alley, up to the time of the change to Province street in 1833. It was then made a "modern street" with its 15-inch sidewalks and cobblestone paving.

Originally it was a country lane. After the royal governors who came from England to rule the colony of Massachusetts had descended from their carriages at the Province house on what is now Washington street, the horses were driven around to the stables on "Governor's alley."

Was Apple Orchard Once.

Now, the slice of land being added to the street is cut from what once was the governor's apple orchard.

On this site the first Catholic church to be erected in Boston was built in 1788. Near by was the Second Universalist church in 1817, and it was there that the renowned Hosea Ballou was ordained and preached. The entrance from Bosworth street was once Montgomery court, named in honor of General Montgomery, who lost his life when he tried to take Quebec.

It was on Bosworth street that Oliver Wendell Holmes lived when he wrote "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table." Bosworth street itself, up to 100 years ago, had been occupied by the gardens of fashionable mansions in Tremont and Bromfield streets.

Increasing congestion in traffic conditions in the narrow thoroughfares of older Boston has resulted in the widening operations now in progress.

'Woman Without Country' Appeals to World Court

Geneva, Switzerland.—"The man without a country," or in this case a woman, actually has come before the League of Nations.

A woman whose property in France was sequestered during the war appealed to the World court at The Hague, stating that France labels her as German, but that Germany refuses to recognize her as a national. The World court passed the problem of the woman's recourse to justice up to the league.

Conditions arising from the war probably have placed many persons in this same position, so that they are debarred from all existing legal tri-

Davidson Dept. Store News

Issued Every Week by the Davidson Department Store with the hope it will please and entertain our friends and customers.

Davidson's Prices

Not a sale, just regular prices but read and see if they do not beat the sale prices of others:

- 220 White Back Blue Denim Overalls \$1.50
- Extraordinary High Grade Boys Overalls \$1.00
- Youth's overalls, same quality \$1.25 and \$1.00.
- Good quality work shirts 75c
- Men's Good Leather Work Shoes, a very suitable work shoe for summer wear \$1.98
- Ladies Comfortable Pumps and Oxfords, the Godman make 1.98

A complete line of Novelty pumps and Sandals in black, gray, brown buff and other stylish shades, in the latest styles at very reasonable prices. Hose in all colors to match. A complete line of dress goods, including the latest novelties in Voiles, Linens, Draperies, etc.

A dentist is the only man that can tell a woman to shut her mouth and get away with it.

No man can serve two masters, but the number of mistresses a man can serve is infinite.

A man generally prefers a well formed woman to a well informed woman.

Expected to arrive in the next few days a dandy assortment of Misses and Ladies Silk Dresses in Crepe de Chine, Canton Crepe and other stylish silk material in the latest models. The goods were bought right and we will be in a position to save you 25 to 50 per cent on the prices you have been paying for the same goods.

Never go into the water after a hearty meal. You'll never find it there.

Fall In Line

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUILD NEW HOUSES AND TO REPAIR OLD ONES

We sell everything you need for the job as our line includes

- BRICK, LIME,
- SAND, PLASTER,
- ROOFING, SHEETING,
- FRAMING
- SIDING, CEILING
- FLOORING, CASING,
- SHEET ROCK,
- WALL BOARD,
- WINDOWS, DOORS

and

COMPLETE LINE OF BUILDERS HARDWARE

If you will get our prices and see our material it will mean a sale.

Call on us, we appreciate your trade.

WATAUGA FURNITURE & LBR. CO.

by W. R. Gragg, General Manager.

Alaska Trappers Return on Palatial Steamers

Tacoma, Wash.—Trappers are homeward bound from Alaska in palatial steamers. Unlike the popular fiction characters who come down out of the Northland silence in a canoe piled high with smelly bales, these intrepid adventurers are the gentry of the trade. Early last fall several score of trappers left here for coveted places along the interior rivers and lakes and where during the winter they followed their trap lines in true "wilderness fashion."

The traps have been sprung and cached away for another season, and with fairly large bales the fur-getters are now coming home for well-earned vacations. In average years trappers bring down bales of fur worth from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Resolutions of Respect

Whereas God, in His righteous wisdom has removed from our midst our beloved sister and co-worker, Mrs. R. C. Rivers, a member of the Womans' Missionary Society of the Boone Methodist church, a loyal member of the church, a woman full of good works, always true to the teachings of Christ, ministering to those in need or distress and patient in affliction, We the undersigned members of the Woman's Missionary Society bow in humble submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, devoutly thanking Him for her life and power of influence among us. Therefore be it resolved:

First, that we cherish her memory as one who literally made the world better by having lived in it.

Second, that we extend to her bereaved ones our deepest sympathy assuring them that we are partakers with them in their sorrow.

Third, that while we miss her, we rejoice in the assurance of hope that all is well with her soul.

Fourth, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the sorrowing family, a copy to the North Carolina Christian Advocate for publication, a copy to the Watauga Democrat with request to publish, and that a copy be spread upon the minutes of the W. M. S.

MRS. J. F. HARDIN
MRS. M. B. BLACKBURN
MRS. J. S. STANBURY,
Committee