

Light Punishment May Be Meted Out To Tiger Child

Her Confession Does Not Jibe With Facts, It Is Now Discovered, and New Development May Be Result of Skilled Legal Defense

By L. C. OWEN

San Francisco, Jan. 20. The theory that feminity, if beautiful, can get away with anything, particularly murder, is threatening to hold good in the case of 13-year-old Dorothy Ellington, who the police here say is America's first mother-murderer.

Sob sisters with their metaphorical pseudonyms, "tiger child," "mother girl," "gapper player" and other high sounding epithets, and sentimentalists with their arguments of "victim misunderstood" and "never had a chance," are coming to make themselves felt.

Likewise public sentiment, the edge having been taken off the first feeling of revulsion at the awfulness of the youthful matricide's self confessed crime, is commencing to wonder if there isn't something, after all, to the environment and lack of parental understanding arguments. Out of it all there is strong indication that the worst 13-year-old Dorothy will get—provided she is found guilty—is a couple of years of mental and moral courses in a California reformatory.

Already an elaborate defense is being built up. Whereas for four days after her arrest the Ellington girl was without either legal adviser or friends—even her father and her brother repudiating her—she now has both. Public Defender Frank Egan, who is wealthy enough not to have to work unless he wants to, whose hobby is defending those who cannot afford good lawyers, and who is a formidable force as defense lawyer in any case, has come to Dorothy's legal rescue.

The police were not going to let him in at first but they could not keep him out. Also Dorothy's father and brother have finally decided that blood is thicker than water. Present indications are that part of the defense will be built around the higher mathematics of gunfire—oblique angles, trajectories and marksmanship. Falling in that it may fall back upon "abnormality" with a whole flock of experts, alienists and psychologists raising to the titan height defendant's side.

The higher mathematics of gunfire will come out in the testimony to the firing of the fatal shot. Dorothy's confession to the police it develops, does not jibe. Her story of how she stood 11 1/2 feet away in a doorway and shot down her mother as the latter sat laughing her shoes with her feet toward the girl, has been proven a physical impossibility. But—and this is one point which augurs well for the girl—the police did not find out that the confession and the actual facts of the killing did not dovetail until the girl had secured an attorney. Now they may encounter some obstacles in getting another more accurate confession from her.

In some quarters the theory has been advanced that some "shell" friend actually did the shooting and that the girl is shielding him. Some half hundred newspaper folk who interviewed Dorothy a couple of times daily and who are pretty fair detectives themselves when chasing sinister facts, do not agree with this theory, however.

All along they have held that the girl is keeping under cover much as to what might have been the real motive in the murder and they think the confession she gave the police is to cover up some more sinister motive on her part.

With a fake confession upsetting plans to hurry the 16-year-old prisoner through a perfunctory trial and to life imprisonment, there is another development which, even though she might be found guilty, forecasts light punishment for Dorothy. It was announced shortly after the girl's arrest that Miss Theresa Meikle, deputy district attorney, would handle the prosecution. The woman prosecutor in turn declared Dorothy would not be taken into the juvenile court for trial, and that she would be prosecuted without regard to her sex or tender age.

Now the district attorney himself has taken a hand in the case. He announced that the woman deputy prosecutor was all wrong and that sex, age and kindliness are going to be important considerations in dealing with Dorothy. She will be given a juvenile court hearing, he declares. The presiding judge will determine what disposition is to be made of her case, whether she will be prosecuted criminally or a helping hand extended to her.

New York, Jan. 20.—District Attorney Banton today ordered a grand jury investigation of the alleged attempt of Dolan and O'Connell, New York Giants, to bribe infield Sam of Philadelphia to throw a baseball game.

New York, Jan. 20.—Spot cotton closed quiet; middling 24.00, a decline of five points. Futures, closing bid: January 23.50, March 23.75, May 24.10, July 24.30, October 23.94.

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CREST OF FLOOD BELIEVED PAST

Ten Dead and Property Loss Huge But Still Unestimated in Wake of Rain and Flood in Georgia.

Atlanta, Jan. 20.—The crest of the flood which has been acute in several Southern states since Saturday is believed to be passing today.

It leaves behind a list of ten dead and missing, and railroad and automobile traffic demoralized. The streams are receding and fair weather is promised in Southern Georgia where the worst property damage has been.

Damage estimates are not available but they are expected to be large. Fair weather is also promised in Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana.

Scores of Georgia towns are virtually isolated. Train service north and south is suspended south of Macon.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The U. S. Weather Bureau last night predicted relief by Wednesday for the flooded sections of the South.

Atlanta, Jan. 20.—The rivers continued to rise over the Southern states last night as the rains continued, crippling railroad and motor traffic, but no additional deaths have been reported.

Macon, Ga., Jan. 20.—Watchers along the Ocmulgee River reported that the water was slowly receding.

RED MEN HELP ELKS' BIG SHOWS

Through the generosity of the Improved Order of Red Men, the rehearsals of the Elks' Minstrel show taking place in the Red Men's Hall in the Savings Bank Building, the Red Men donating their hall without any charge whatsoever. In their meeting held last Friday night, the Elks expressed their gratitude to the Red Men for this boost in helping produce their annual charity minstrel.

Rehearsals will get under full swing tonight, both of the directors of the National Producers' Association having arrived from York, Pennsylvania, where they staged minstrel for the American Legion. Tonight's rehearsal is called for 7:30 o'clock and the committee in charge wishes all those who are willing to help this cause to meet in the Red Men's Hall at that hour.

STANTON, VA. JAN. 20.—The Commonwealth of Virginia will begin reading into court records here today what its Blue Sky Securities law officials allege to be one of the most amazing chapters of fraudulent stock transactions ever recorded in a southern state.

Twenty men will face charges on 1,000 indictments in Amazing Chapter Blue Sky Law Violations.

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According to William R. Shands, director of the securities division of the state corporation commission, and president of the National Securities Commissioners' Association, today's trial will represent the state's largest single coup in the operation of its new Blue Sky Securities law. The indictments, he declared, came after months of quiet investigation, in which the securities division was the chief protagonist, being aided by those whom the division claims were fleeced out of their savings. They also represent, he said, more than 20 days of herculean labors by a special grand jury for the circuit court of Augusta county.

GOOD CROWD OFF FOR EDENTON'S BARBEQUE

Nearly 100 best-dressed left on the Edenton Special Tuesday morning for Edenton to attend the Chowan bridge barbecue in that city today.

Declares Bridge Is State Project

R. A. Deighton Leads Speaking at Edenton Rally for Chowan River Bridge—Besticity Has Biggest Out of Town Delegation—Roads Kept Many Away

Edenton, Jan. 20.—(Special to The Advance).—The building of the Chowan River bridge is a North Carolina project and must go forward," Commissioner of Revenue R. A. Deighton told 1,000 representative Eastern Carolina citizens here today at the Chowan bridge rally.

Every visitor in Edenton from the General Assembly pledged his support to the erection of a State bridge across the Chowan River. "Two years ago," Tam C. Bowie of Asheville told the audience, "your eastern representatives helped me in securing appropriation for building a railroad in the Lost Provinces of the west, and North Carolina owes it to the eastern section to build this bridge over the Chowan River."

C. S. Vann of Edenton was in charge of the program. The meeting was held in the opera house, and was held for the purpose of raising money for the bridge. Deighton, who is in charge of the project, declared that the bridge is a state project and must go forward.

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TROTSKY DROPPED OFF WAR COUNCIL

Moscow, Jan. 20.—The central committee of the Communist party by a vote of 50 to 2 has relieved Leon Trotsky of his duties as chairman of the Revolutionary War Council.

VIRGINIA BEGINS BIG FRAUD CASE

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CAUSE FOR WAR FEAR OF CHANGE

Former Members Reparations Commission Speak to Women's Conference at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The profound economic cause for war is the need to avoid changes and to maintain existing conditions," John Foster Dulles, New York lawyer and former member of the Reparations Commission, and Senator Charles McNary, declared today in a paper presented for publication before the Women's Conference on the Cause and Cure of War.

"War is due to fear, fear for the loss of property which has been honestly acquired and which, with society organized on a capitalistic basis, it is lawful to seek to retain," Mr. Dulles said. "The effort to attain great wealth is not in itself apt to be a fundamental cause of war. Greed for gain and unscrupulous measures to attain it may be a secondary cause of war. But the greatest danger lies in the impulse to retain such wealth as we have."

"When we see the British government including in its demands upon Egypt the right to utilize freely the waters of the Nile to irrigate the cotton development of the Sudan, that is but one manifestation of the efforts of the textile industry to ward off danger. Thus, while the demand of Great Britain is, in a superficial sense, aggressive and grasping in character, yet in reality the motive behind it is less the desire to extend and increase wealth and power than the determination to maintain an established industry which is seriously menaced."

United States for money, and the government has been compelled to take steps to prevent wildcat speculations on negotiating loans which are not in the interest of sound business and might prejudice American lenders against legitimate enterprises.

No decisive step has been taken in Germany this year about joining the League of Nations. The various measures were made through the MacDonald government in England to have Germany enter the league, and there has been much discussion of the subject but no concrete results.

The flight of the ZR-3 to the United States and the good feeling created between Germany and the United States by the hospitality shown Dr. Eckner, commander of the airship, have been outstanding features in the foreign relations of the German republic. With the adoption of the Dawes plan and better relations with nations to the west, Germany is apparently looking less and less toward Russia.

German cities, especially Berlin, took on renewed activity during 1924.

Germany Made Considerable Financial Adjustment When Rentenmark Bans Worthless Paper.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—The year 1924 in Germany was the primary of financial adjustment. Economic questions have overshadowed everything else. Strife as they would to create party issues, politicians were never able to get away from the reparations question, "which underlaid all the financial uncertainty that was holding back the new republic."

The year opened with sound money and Germany was ready to start on the best year it has had since the close of the war. There was faith in the Rentenmark. The money printing presses had been stopped, and Germany was in line with nations which had stabilized their exchange.

The general election in May brought few changes. Dr. Marx still remained as chancellor, although he headed a coalition which did not have a majority in the Reichstag. He had, however, the confidence of the public and handled the German interests in the London conference in such a manner that he not only won popular confidence, but also retained popular support at home and was able to get the Reichstag to support the plan evolved in London for putting the Dawes plan into effect.

Seymour Parker Gilbert, general agent for reparations payments, arrived in Berlin in November and the plans worked out in London for the settlement of pending reparations claims against Germany, are gradually being put into effect.

The French evacuated sections of the Ruhr and other sections of Germany which they had invaded in protest against Germany's failure to comply with easy terms. This evacuation came a few weeks after the London conference in August and helped to clear the atmosphere along the Rhine. Railways were again able to operate, and workers returned to their homes.

Capital, so much needed by industry for the purchase of raw material, has been coming into Germany rapidly since the acceptance of the Dawes plan. It is estimated in banking circles that the United States has loaned a total of \$100,000,000 to Germany within the last year. This includes loans to municipalities as well as to corporations. The total amount to be loaned to Germany during 1924 is estimated at \$150,000,000.

Living costs are high and sadly out of proportion to wages. There is much uneasiness and uncertainty in industrial circles. Nevertheless there is a hopefulness in the bearing of the average German not discernible 12 months ago, when the financial situation of the republic seemed very black in spite of the stable Rentenmark.

Domestic interest rates are still so high that internal business is hopelessly cramped, and prices in the local markets on staple articles stand well above world figures. Loans from abroad are gradually bringing interest rates down, but many firms with good security frequently pay from 20 to 24 percent a year for money.

Insurance On Children Be Fought In Assembly

Representative Dellinger Would Merely Limit Such Insurance but Senator McKelthan's Bill Goes Further When He Illustrates Point With Pathetic Stories

Raleigh, Jan. 20.—Insurance, especially the insurance of children, is the subject of the highest legislative matters to be considered by the General Assembly tomorrow.

On the insurance of children, Representative Dellinger, of Gaston, and sponsored by the State Department of Insurance, would place certain limitations on insurance of children, but would not prohibit infantile insurance.

In the opinion of Senator E. R. McKelthan, of Cumberland, this measure does not go far enough. The Cumberland senator has introduced a bill in the upper house of the General Assembly which would make it unlawful for a company to write policies on children under 12 years of age and would limit the amount of insurance on children between the ages of 12 and 15 years.

Other insurance bills that have been presented thus far are one to define and regulate group life insurance and one to repeal Section 6460 of the Consolidated Statutes, with reference to medical examination by life insurance companies. Both of these measures are sponsored by the Insurance Department and both have gotten into the legislative mill, via the House, the first being introduced by Representative Dellinger, of Gaston, and the second by Representative Wright, of Guilford.

Insuring children is a criminal practice that should not be permitted in this state, declared Senator McKelthan after introducing his bill concerning the matter. He illustrated what he termed the evils of infantile insurance.

"Two women came to town, one white and one negro. The white woman went to a bank with a stack of insurance policies she had been carrying on her children. Of course, she couldn't get any money on such policies as those. What was she to do? She couldn't get any money with which to raise her crops and support her children. If she had saved the money she had put into insurance on her children, she would have been fixed all right."

"The negro woman also needed money, money with which to buy her children something to eat. She was making about \$3.50 a week and was paying out about half of it to an insurance collector who came around every week. That money should have gone to feed and clothe her children. Some one asked me if I thought that woman had no right to collect on a policy if one of her babies died. Why certainly not, I replied. No one should be allowed to get a hundred dollars or any other amount for the death of a child. I was asked if I meant that the woman should murder her child for the money. Well, I won't say that, but she shouldn't be permitted to profit by her baby's death under any circumstances."

Insurance Commissioner Stacey Wade, when questioned about the subject, expressed another viewpoint. He said he was heartily in favor of regulating infantile insurance, pointing to the fact that who was sponsoring the bill to the effect that had been introduced. But to prohibit insurance of children under 12 years of age, he declared, would run counter to the industrial insurance campaign out of the state.

The plan of regulation set forth in the Dellinger bill would permit insurance of infantile insurance policies ranging from \$20 for children under one year in age to \$500 for children 14 years of age. The McKelthan bill, besides prohibiting insurance of children under 12 years of age, would limit the amounts of policies beyond that age to \$700 for a child between 14 years and six months old.

The Dellinger bill is now in the hands of the House committee on insurance, while the McKelthan bill is in the hands of the Senate insurance committee in the Senate.

Both of these measures would prohibit insurance upon any property except upon application and in the name of some person interested in the property. The Dellinger bill does not state the penalty for violation, which in the McKelthan bill is a misdemeanor.

Representative Wright's bill would eliminate the statute requiring of medical examination of an applicant for life insurance before issuance of a policy to him for an amount exceeding \$500. For policies under that figure medical examination of the applicant is not now necessary.

The bill to define and regulate group life insurance would measurably increase the power of the State Insurance Department by giving it authority of supervision over this branch of underwriting and by establishing certain standards for group policies. Among the standards is a regulation making it necessary for at least 50 persons, employees of a firm or company, to be insured before a group policy can be issued, and this number must represent 75 per cent or more of the number of employees employed by the firm or company as a whole or in some particular and separate branch or department.

The bill is an evolution rather than a revolution. Causes of war between nations, dates for back to the sudden flame of attack, come only after long mouldering of the embers of war. Wars and the war spirit grows between nations just as quarrels grow between neighbors. It is one thing today and another tomorrow. The women are being told, How they are to apply the knowledge they are to gain at this week's conference to the real problem. The causes of war are simple; the cure the most difficult thing in the world.

Washington, Jan. 20.—A very earnest band of women, feeling that they never are consulted about declaring a war but have to read a large share of the brunt of it, are meeting in Washington this week trying to find "the cause and cure for war." They are a very practical lot of women and they thought the best way to find the cause of war was to invite a half score of military men to address them on the subject. They figure that if these professional soldiers do not know the cause of war nobody does.

While the soldiers know something of the cause, it is admitted at the outset that the professional fighting man cares extremely little as to the cause. One of the trustees is sounded his personal ambition thrusts aside every other thought and he plunges into make as much of a success as possible of his own particular phase of the proceedings.

Causes War Simple But Rub Comes In The Cure

Never the Less Earnest Women at Washington This Week Studying Causes With View to Find Cure for a World-Old Ill

By ROBERT T. SMALL

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The attitude of the fighting man is best illustrated by the story of Major Eugene Houditch, who was machine gun officer of the First Canadian Division at the outbreak of the war and then became attached to the First American Division in the same capacity. "Gene Houghton, an American, was in Canada when war was declared. He loved to fight. He decided to raise a machine gun company from among some of his old classmates who had campaigned in Central American revolutions. He wired two score of them asking if they would join him in going into the World War. One of the replies was typical. "Spore," it read, "which side are you for? There has been a lot of talk about 'emancipation' in the study of wars in the past, but the women meeting here under the direction of Mrs. Carrie Chap-

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BUDGET BODY IS STILL AT WORK

And While Commission Wrestles With Its Problems Assembly Devotes Itself to Local Legislation

Raleigh, Jan. 20.—The General Assembly met at 11 o'clock today to consider local legislation while the Budget Commission continued to wrestle with financial affairs in an effort to prepare recommendations for appropriations.

Many local bills were offered last night. House of all State Institutions were summoned to meet with the Budget Commission tomorrow for a conference regarding the minimum needs for the next biennium. Navy legislators are in Edenton for the Chowan bridge rally.

The Legislative session today was brief. The House recalled the bill increasing the appropriation for a new State office building from the Senate and recommended it to the appropriations committee.

Raleigh, Jan. 20.—Both Houses resumed work in earnest today at 11 o'clock. The meeting last night was only a 30-minute affair, in the form of a memorial to Robert E. Lee, principally paying tribute to that leader. A few bills were brought up.

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